

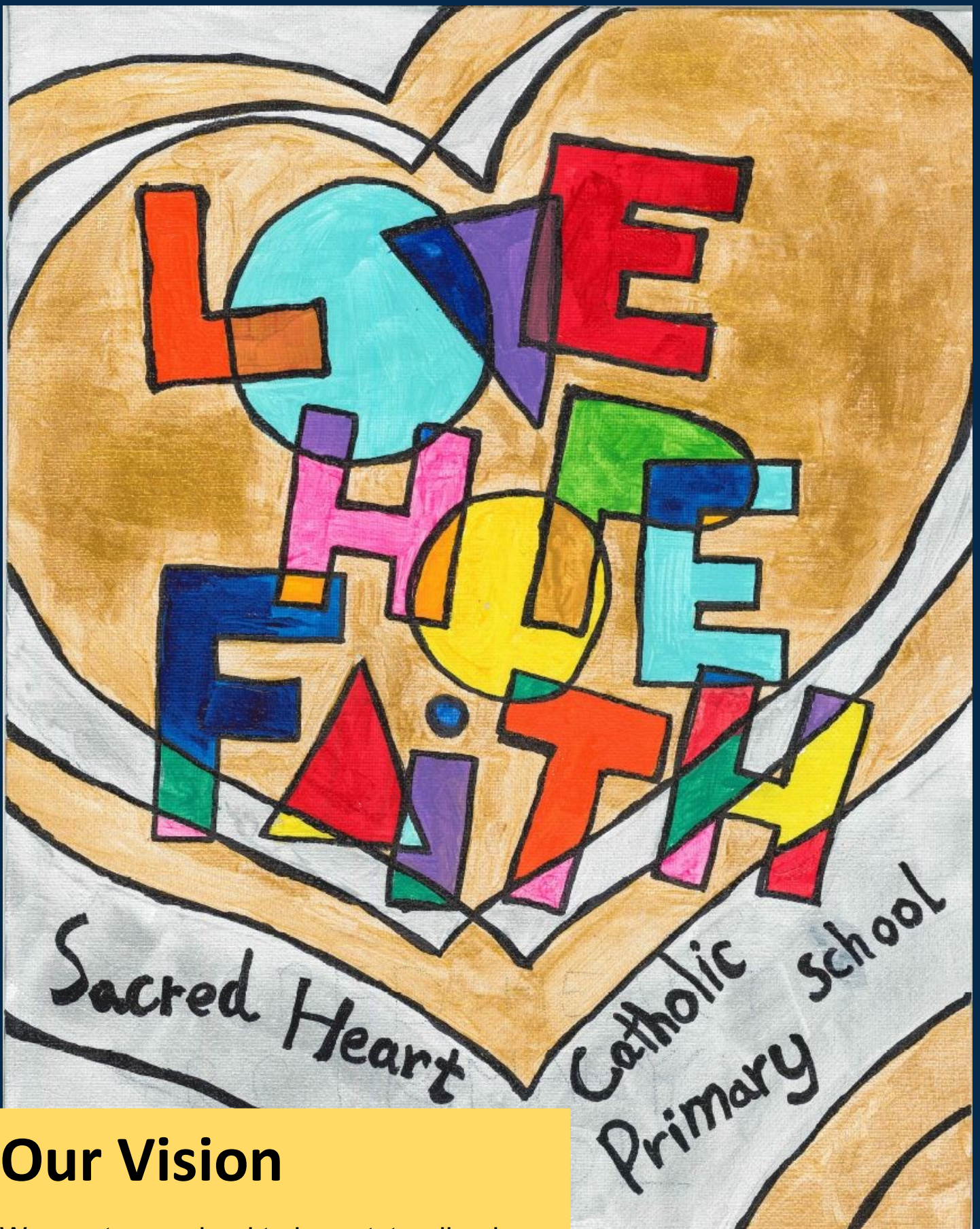
**Prospectus**



**Sacred Heart**

**Catholic Primary School and Nursery**

*Welcoming Merton and Kingston families of all faiths and none*



## Our Vision

We want our school to be outstanding in all areas of learning, pastoral care and faith formation.

We aim to nurture a love of learning, with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

One of our winning poster competition entries by Scarlett (Year 2)

# Welcome to Sacred Heart



Sacred Heart is a two form entry Catholic school and nursery welcoming families of all faiths and none. Children are at the heart of what we do. Our school motto, 'Learning in Love' and our core values 'Faith, Hope and Love', are used as a focus to promote a lifelong love of learning for all.

Our children thrive here in a happy, safe and nurturing environment and we work closely with parents to create a sharing community where all feel a sense of value and belonging.

Children achieve well at Sacred Heart School. We are proud to be able to provide a broad and balanced education that promotes excellent academic, personal, social, emotional and spiritual outcomes.

We have a team of strong and highly skilled class teachers and specialist teachers in RE, Music, PE and Spanish. Together they bring out the very best in our children individually and the school as a whole. This is evidenced in the 'Good Provider' outcome confirmed by Ofsted in 2023 and 'Outstanding' in our November 2019 Section 48 Inspection by the Education Commission evaluating the effectiveness of the school as a provider of Catholic education.

We work in partnership with 'Little Hearts Preschool' for two and rising three year olds and 'Kidz Klub', breakfast & afterschool club, both of which are based on site. This provides a seamless childcare and education provision from the ages of 2 to 11, from 7.30am to 6.00pm during term-time, supporting working families and those with younger children.

We are a forward-looking school with a strong Leadership Team and Governing Body.

We very much look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to Sacred Heart.

**Lorraine Dolan-Walsh**

**Jonathan Roberts and Blon Bryne**

**"Leadership of the school is outstanding" Section 48 November 2019**



Outstanding Section 48

Education  
Commission  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK





**“Pupils told inspectors, ‘Learning is fun because we learn new things. It is a group effort, we discuss and learn from each other’.” Ofsted February 2018**

# Our Curriculum

*We strive to nurture a love of learning through excellence in learning, pastoral care and faith formation.*

## English

At Sacred Heart, children are taught the skills of reading and writing through exciting and interactive strategies. High quality texts are used to stimulate the children's imagination and develop their love of reading. Drama, film and speaking and listening activities are all used to enhance their writing skills. Teachers cover the National Curriculum expectations through the innovative Talk 4 Writing approaches across a range of genres, and demonstrate mastery of skills over time. Grammar is taught both within the English lesson and, where necessary, as an additional lesson. This ensures children understand the rules of grammar and that they are also able to apply them. Whole class Guided Reading lessons allow all pupils to have access to and explore quality, challenging texts promoting a life-long love of learning.

## Phonics

Phonics is taught every day in Early Years and Key Stage 1 using the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds programme as well as National Curriculum objectives. Lessons are fully interactive and learning is enhanced through the use of songs, actions and games.

## Maths

Maths is taught daily following the National Curriculum and White Rose Maths Mastery approach. Children across the school learn how to use their knowledge of mathematics to find and explain solutions to problems. Reasoning skills are developed using maths talk. Fluency in calculations is taught as both stand-alone lessons and embedded within problem solving.

Concrete apparatus, pictorial representation and written calculations are used across the school to ensure that children fully understand the mathematical concepts. This allows pupils to make connections across topics. Children are supported and challenged to ensure they view maths as an important life skill, whilst enjoying and exploring its intricacies.

## Science

Science is taught in conjunction with the thematic approach and this helps to bring ideas and concepts to life. From growing pondweed in different liquids, making ice-cream or categorising insects which are found during an exploration of the local environment, science is made as hands-on as possible. Children develop their scientific skills by focusing on the stages of investigation so that every child becomes a mini-scientist.

**“Pupils know that all staff expect them to work hard and challenge themselves. This includes pupils with special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND).” Ofsted March 2023**

We hold a Science Week each year at the same time as National Science Week. During this time, the children have the opportunity to meet and talk to scientists, develop their investigative skills and conduct a number of scientific investigations.

## Topic

There are weekly lessons in history and geography, art and design and technology each half term. The National Curriculum skills are progressively allocated to topics each half term. These topics and skills have been carefully designed so support other areas of the curriculum and celebrate the rich and diverse culture that we live in. Skills are revisited throughout the key stage and are supported by a clear progression of skills so that knowledge and skills are explored at a deeper level enabling children to know more and remember more.

**In our 2022 pupil survey, 97% of children felt their lessons were exciting and interesting**

## PSHE

Personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) is taught weekly following the Jigsaw PSHE scheme which aims to prepare children/young people for life, helping them really know and value who they are and understand how they relate to other people in this ever-changing world.

## Computing

Computing skills are taught weekly in our fully equipped ICT suite or through iPads or Chromebooks. We follow the iCompute scheme of work which provides children with the opportunity to use a rich variety of digital tools and technologies and learn how to develop ideas, communicate, collaborate, create, present and evaluate. E– Safety is revisited termly.

## Physical Education

PE is taught twice weekly by a PE specialist. Children work to develop their team skills through a range of skill and game based lessons. Our PE specialist works alongside our teaching staff to ensure high quality lessons and promotes a love of sport for all children. He also runs a selection of popular after-school clubs and leads and coordinates all our competitive fixtures.

## Music

Music is a key part of what makes Sacred Heart special and all of our children are taught to sing from their hearts. We have a dedicated music room which provides children with the opportunities to explore percussion, wind and string instruments. Our specialist music teacher teaches music across the school and inspires pupils to develop a love of music, foster a range of skills as musicians through appreciating a range of styles of music, composing and performing music.

## Curriculum Enrichment

We work hard to develop learning beyond the classroom and beyond the National Curriculum. This includes planned visits for every year group connected to their topics, and a number of 'themed weeks' such as 'International Week', 'Science Week'.

**"My children are thriving in Sacred Heart and love learning, the classes are engaging and when they come home, they always tell me about their day."**  
Parent/carer survey June 2022

**"Teachers broaden pupils' experiences through a range of educational visits and themed days. These help to immerse pupils in purposeful and practical learning."** Ofsted 2023

**Our December 2022 staff survey showed that 100% of staff feel proud to work at Sacred Heart**

**"The curriculum is broad and offers pupils learning opportunities in a wide range of subjects. Specialist teachers in physical education (PE), music and computing engage pupils with high levels of enthusiasm in their learning."**

**Ofsted February 2018**

## Languages

All Key Stage 2 children learn Spanish. This includes not only learning about the language but the culture. We have a dedicated foreign languages teacher who works closely with the modern foreign languages team at the Ursuline High School.

## Home Learning

At Sacred Heart we provide weekly home learning for English and Maths across all year groups. In addition, spellings are sent home weekly, and in Year 6 home learning runs across the week to support children getting ready for secondary school. Half termly topic projects are sent out over the school holidays to get children excited and interested about the topic to come.

Our home learning takes full account of the children's needs and interests, while providing parents and carers an opportunity to find out what their child is learning at school.

We make full use of virtual learning platforms, using Google Classroom across the school.



# The Early Years Foundation Stage

We believe that a happy, stimulating and safe environment is essential for the development of children. Through the care and teaching provided we aim to develop independence, self-esteem and an enthusiasm for learning.

We understand that children have a range of different experiences and a variety of skills and interests that they bring with them to school. Our provision and teaching builds upon what children already know and can do. We hope this will be the beginning of a happy and successful partnership which will continue throughout your child's time at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School.

**“Teaching is strong in the early years. Adults model and explain concepts well to support children’s learning and development.” Ofsted February 2018**

**“Children remain focused on their selected activities and are well behaved.”  
Ofsted February 2018**

## 15 hours of funded nursery education

Children aged 3 and 4 who are eligible for 15 hours per week of nursery education will be offered a 3 hour morning or afternoon session each day in our school nursery. There is the option of extending this by paying for additional nursery sessions, lunchtime care or using our breakfast and after-school club. If you need more flexibility in how your 15 hours are used, for example using your hours over 2.5 days each week, our on-site preschool Little Hearts may be able to help.

## The 30 Hour Offer

The 30 hours of childcare offer (for 38 weeks a year) is available to parents in England who work more than 16 hours a week and earn less than £100,000. Further information about our 30 hour offer is available on our website or speak to the School Office.

Taking up 30 hours of Early Education supports children's learning, social and emotional understanding and prepares them for their future.

**“The nursery class is a very supportive, caring space. The class team is fantastic.”  
Parent/carer survey June 2022**



# Academic results to be proud of

## Early Years

70% of pupils achieved a 'Good Level of Development' in national assessments in 2022 compared with 63% nationally and 69% within our local authority, Merton.

## Key Stage 1

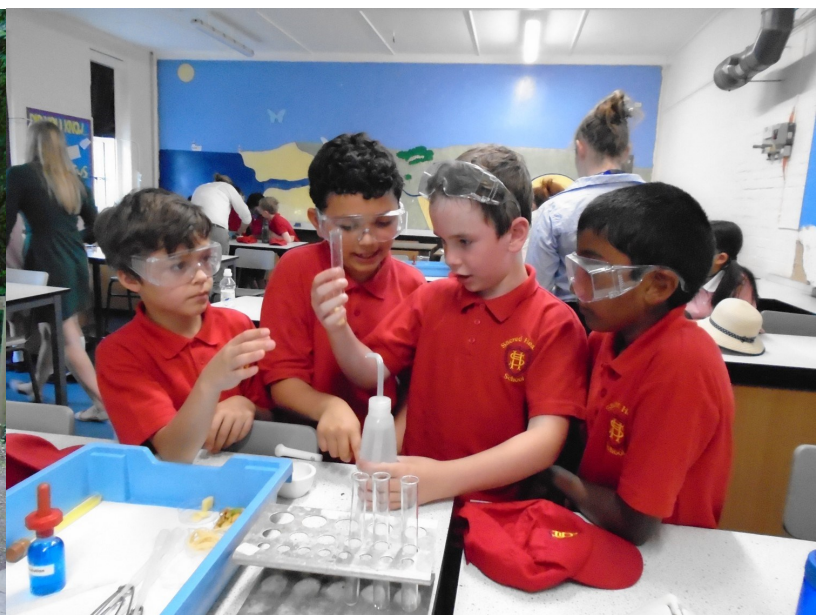
Teacher assessments in 2022 for reading, writing and maths combined were externally moderated. 66% of pupils met 'Age Related Expectations' (ARE) compared with 54% nationally and 56.8% in Merton. 25% were working at 'Greater Depth within the Expected Standard' (GDS) compared with 6% nationally and 9.4% in Merton.

## Key Stage 2

Statutory data and teacher assessments for reading, writing and maths combined in 2022 showed that 65% of Sacred Heart pupils met 'Age Related Expectations' (ARE) compared with 60% nationally and 61% in Merton. 18% were working at 'Greater Depth within the Expected Standard' (GDS) compared with 7% nationally and 10.2% in Merton.

In 2022, 55% of our year 6 pupils moved on to 'Top 50' London secondary schools according to the Sunday Times Parent Power list.

**98% of respondents agreed their child does well at Sacred Heart in our 2022 parent/carer survey**



# Enrichment and pupil leadership

At Sacred Heart, we pride ourselves on building bright futures. Additional programmes of enrichment encourage our children to become critical thinkers; resilient, patient and independent learners who are ready to face the challenges of the modern world. All of our children are encouraged to become responsible and active members of our community, helping to share and shape its future.

Sacred Heart offers pupils a wide variety of lunchtime and afterschool clubs. Some of the clubs we run include:

Football	Computing	Ball Skills	Art & Crafts	French	Choir
Sewing	Drama	Basketball	Dodgeball	Glee-Club	Chess

**“Pupils enjoy the variety of clubs that develop their skills and interests.” Ofsted March 2023**



# Well-being of pupils

## Pastoral Care

At all times we endeavour to maintain a healthy and safe environment for your child to live and learn in. We recognise the importance of good pastoral care, and also the issues of security.

Our staff are able to manage minor accidents and illnesses and we will always contact you if we consider that your child is too unwell for lessons or there is something that is concerning us.

**100% of parents and carers confirmed that their children are safe and well cared for at Sacred Heart in our 2022 survey**

## Safeguarding

At Sacred Heart we recognise that the welfare of your child is paramount. We take seriously our responsibility to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of all the children and young people in our care.

We have set procedures in place to ensure the safety of children. There is controlled and authorised access into and out of our building which is managed by the school administrative staff. All visitors are asked to sign in and wear a security badge to identify themselves while on the premises.

## SEND

If your child has Special Educational Needs and/or a disability, the first point of contact is the class teacher or our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

Many children have times when they find new work difficult, and in most cases these problems can be overcome. The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy which sets out the stages of need in the revised Code of Practice (2015).

The Code implements a graduated response of: assess, plan, do, review. In all cases, parents are included in the identification process and at each stage of the process. The graduated response details a child's specific needs, their assessments, objectives and provision.

Where a child has an Education Health and Care Plan, there is an annual review. Details of our Local Offer can be found on the school website.

## Attendance and Punctuality

We expect excellent attendance and punctuality from all pupils because pupil progress is affected by absences. We regularly monitor attendance and punctuality and write to parents/carers when their child's attendance falls below 96%.

If your child is late to school, it can adversely affect their learning. We ask for you to make every effort to bring your child to school on time. If your child is regularly late, a meeting will be set up with the Headteacher and Attendance Officer in order for us to help you to change this.

## Holidays

We do not authorise holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances for doing so. Exceptional circumstances may include bereavement, a family event or religious holiday.

**“Behaviour is exemplary. Pupils work hard and show high levels of self-control.”  
Ofsted March 2023**

## Behaviour

We have high expectations of our pupils' behaviour and encourage self-discipline. We manage behaviour in a kind but firm way through discussion and with care.

Any difficulties may be resolved through conversation with the class teacher, and parents will be involved at an early stage if a child's behaviour is causing concern. Privileges may be withdrawn if it is considered appropriate.

Bullying will not be tolerated under any circumstances. If there is any suspicion that any child is being bullied, the Headteacher must be contacted immediately.

**“The school attends to the pastoral needs of all pupils and staff exceedingly well.”  
Section 48 November 2019**



**“Pupils are well behaved, both within classrooms and around the School. They are courteous, friendly and respectful.” Ofsted February 2018**

# Catholic Community

## Religious Education

Religious Education enables our children to know and grow in their faith and develop their spirituality. At Sacred Heart, the social, moral, spiritual and cultural ethos is embedded in our vision.

10% of the weekly timetable is dedicated to RE teaching and we follow the 'Come and See' scheme. The aim of this programme is to explore the religious dimensions of questions about life, dignity and purpose, within the Catholic tradition. Through this scheme, the children also learn about other faiths and how we are all welcomed and loved by God. Alongside this, 'A Journey in Love' is used for RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) which is a developmental programme across the school where pupils are taught to love and respect themselves and others.

We also teach the children about other world religions during the academic year. They are encouraged not to simply learn facts about other religions but also reflect upon them and gain insights from the

**“Pupils enjoy Religious Education and generally achieve well.”  
Section 48 November 2019**

**“Leaders support pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively. Pupils learn about different world religions and are taught the importance of tolerance and respect. Pupils are well prepared to play their role in diverse Britain.”  
Ofsted February 2018**

**“My son made some comments recently about British values, which he had learned at school, and it showed me that the message from the school about tolerance and respect had really had an influence on him.”  
Parent survey June 2022**

**“Leaders promote pupils’ spiritual development very well. Staff teach pupils about the importance of caring about everyone.”  
Ofsted March 2023**

## Our Parish

We have formed a close partnership with the Sacred Heart Parish. The children have the opportunity to celebrate Mass on Holy Days and class Masses take place fortnightly.

The children prepare and present readings and prayer and they choose the hymns sung. This allows the children to grow as committed Christians and followers of the Catholic Church.

Sacred Heart is a school with a strong Catholic ethos. The school provides a safe and nurturing environment in which all are welcome.

**“Pupils have a great sense of belonging to their school community.”  
Ofsted February 2018**



# Our Community

## Parent and Staff Association (PSA)

All parents at the school are members of the PSA. Their aim is to raise funds for the children at the school and to strengthen the school community. The PSA hold numerous events such as movie nights, second-hand uniform sales, cake sales and annual Summer and Christmas events, achieving income of around £20,000 annually. The funds are used to provide equipment and materials that enhance the learning environment.

## Sacred Heart Development Funds

Parents are invited to contribute to the school's Curriculum Enrichment Fund and Governors' Maintenance Fund. As a Voluntary Aided faith school, our school community has to pay 10% of the value of any capital funding we receive to support ongoing maintenance and improvements to the school's facilities, building and environment. Like all voluntary aided faith schools, we ask parents to donate to our Maintenance Fund.

The Curriculum Enrichment Fund is used for school activities and resources to enhance learning. Parents make their contributions through ParentPay.

## Parents

Sacred Heart holds workshops for parents to help them support their child's learning at home eg phonics workshops, helping with maths homework. There are also various events where parents have the opportunity to join their child in class and find out about their learning over the term.

**“Amazing community spirit conveyed by school and the PSA” Parent/carer survey June 2022**

## Before and After School Childcare

At Sacred Heart the following extended care is offered:

### Kidz Klub

Breakfast club	7:30am to 8:40am
After school club	3:15pm to 6:00pm
Holiday Club	8:00am to 5:00pm

### Little Hearts Pre-School

Morning session	8.30am to 11.30am
Lunch session	11.30am to 12.30pm
Afternoon session	12.30pm to 3:30pm

**For more information on any of these services please see our website or contact the School Office on 020 8942 0215 or email [school@sacredheart.merton.sch.uk](mailto:school@sacredheart.merton.sch.uk).**

**“The views of parents and carers are overwhelmingly positive. They valued the strong links leaders establish with the community.” Ofsted March 2023**





**“Learning is enhanced outside the classroom through residential trips and educational visits that are linked to pupils’ learning” Ofsted February 2018**

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£18  
Every 7 bottle individually blown with coloured and clear glass so every one is unique. Corks can also be removed.  
Glow-in-the-dark  
Contains glow-in-the-dark  
light the corks



# Partnerships

## **Merton Catholic Schools**

The Catholic schools in Merton Deanery share expertise in the core subjects of English, Maths, Science, and RE. Children also enjoy special events such as their leavers' Mass.

## **Merton School Sports Partnership**

Sacred Heart pupils regularly take part in cluster and borough sports competitions including football, rugby, athletics and swimming. Often doing well and making the school proud, pupils build confidence, resilience and a sense of teamwork.

## **King's College**

Students from King's College regularly support enrichment activities at Sacred Heart.

## **Ursuline High School**

Our partnership with Ursuline began in July 2015 collaborating on leadership and curriculum. Now the focus is on Teach Wimbledon, a path for trainee teachers to gain experience from established school settings.

## **University of Roehampton and St Mary's University**

Sacred Heart provides a learning platform for trainee teachers to gain valuable experience in a teaching environment that coincides with their studies. This provides them with the skills required to become well rounded teachers of the future.



# Sacred Heart

## Catholic Primary School and Nursery

### Three reasons to choose Sacred Heart ...

- **A safe and caring environment**

Our 'Learning in Love' motto runs through everything we do. Behaviour is exemplary. 100% of children surveyed said that Sacred Heart adults care about them and they feel safe at school.

- **Excellent teaching and learning for all**

98% of our parents believe their children do well at Sacred Heart. In 2022, more than half of our Year 6 pupils moved on to 'Top 50' London secondary schools according to the Sunday Times Parent Power list.

- **Our inclusive and welcoming community**

We pride ourselves on our close partnership with parents. 100% of our staff say they are proud to work at our school. 98% of our families would recommend Sacred Heart. We welcome families of all faiths and none and celebrate the fact that there are 31 different languages spoken by Sacred Heart children.



## **Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School**

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