



St Katherine's School & Nursery



Proud to be part of

Coppice
Primary Partnership

Growing Together, Striving for Excellence.



Welcome Booklet



Creating our Future by Learning Together

Mr Lang – Headteacher



Contents

WELCOME TO ST KATHERINE’S SCHOOL & NURSERY.....	4
HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT.....	5
NURSERY - FREE EARLY YEARS EDUCATION.....	6
PAID EARLY EDUCATION	7
STARTING AT ST KATHERINE’S SCHOOL & NURSERY	7
SCHOOL LIFE.....	8
BEGINNING OF SCHOOL DAY	8
END OF SCHOOL DAY	8
ATTENDANCE & ABSENCE.....	8
WHY DOES ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY MATTER?	9
HOME LEARNING	9
OUTDOOR LEARNING.....	10
OUTDOOR LEARNING FOR NURSERY & RECEPTION	10
SWIMMING	10
LEARNING SPACES AND WELLBEING	10
PUPIL VOICE	11
CLUBS & EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES	11
COMMUNICATION.....	11
PAYMENTS	11
WEBSITE AND TWITTER	11
PARENT NEWSLETTER.....	11
PARENT VOICE GROUP.....	11
PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION	12
COMMUNITY EXPERTS & CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT	12
EDUCATIONAL VISITS.....	12
SPECIALIST SUPPORT	12
WRAP AROUND CARE	14

FIRST AID	14
MEDICINES IN SCHOOL	14
EPI-PENS/ PRESCRIBED CREAMS.....	14
ASTHMA	15
FREE SCHOOL MEALS & FAMILY SUPPORT	15
FREE SCHOOL MEALS	15
WATER BOTTLES & SNACKS	15
HEALTHY LUNCHBOX & SINGLE USE PLASTICS	16
SCHOOL UNIFORM.....	16
WINTER UNIFORM:	17
SUMMER UNIFORM:.....	17
PE & SPORT	17
GENERAL	17
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	17
FOOTWEAR	17
HAIRSTYLES	18
HAIR ACCESSORIES.....	18
JEWELLERY INCLUDING WATCHES.....	18
HATS, HEADSCARVES or HEADWARE.....	18
NAIL POLISH & MAKE-UP	18
PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING	19
FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY.....	19
VISION AND VALUES	20
SCHOOL CONTACTS	20
SCHOOL TERM DATES	22



WELCOME TO ST KATHERINE'S SCHOOL & NURSERY

Dear Parents/Carers

Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions a parent can make. I am delighted that you have chosen St Katherine's School and Nursery for your child's education, and I am confident that they will thoroughly enjoy their time here, make lasting friendships and create many happy memories.

At St Katherine's, we are passionate about creating a place of learning. Our curriculum is broad, balanced and full of exciting opportunities. We believe that when learners are curious, they ask questions about the world around them and learning becomes part of their whole life — reaching far beyond the walls of the classroom and the school gate. Curiosity builds a love of learning and a drive to discover answers for themselves. To achieve this, our dedicated staff set the highest standards while providing a nurturing and encouraging climate for all children, regardless of background or circumstance.

At St Katherine's, we are not only a place of learning but a hub for our school community. We place great importance on creating a strong sense of belonging — for our children and for the families who are part of our wonderful school. We want every child to feel known, valued and included, and every family to feel connected, welcomed and involved in school life. This shared sense of belonging underpins our ethos and reflects our shared commitment: *Creating our future by learning together*. It is this partnership between home and school that helps make St Katherine's such a special place to grow and learn.

Whether your child is starting in Early Years, KS1 or KS2, we recognise that they are unique. We aim to meet their individual needs in a vibrant, happy and safe environment. This helps all children thrive academically and personally, developing the skills and understanding they need to be successful in the future.

We are deeply committed to providing enriching learning experiences both within and beyond the classroom. Through trips, visitors, fieldwork, cultural events and real-world experiences, we aim to broaden children's cultural capital, spark moments of awe and wonder, and inspire them to '*See Beyond Snodland*'. We want our pupils to recognise the wider world they belong to, understand the communities they are part of, and feel empowered to make a difference — to themselves and to others. Ultimately, our aim is for our children to leave St Katherine's ready to make the world a better place.

At St Katherine's, we are fortunate to have exceptional facilities that enable us to offer a wide range of enriching experiences through sport, computing, art, music and outdoor learning. Our large playing fields, sensory room and sensory circuits, nurture and wildlife gardens, netball court, football pitches, extensive library and on-site swimming pool all provide diverse and engaging opportunities for children to learn and grow.

Children at St Katherine's are encouraged and supported to be aspirational and achieve their very best. We maintain an environment where high standards go hand in hand with excellent behaviour. We believe that children learn best when they feel safe, and we work hard to create a learning environment where everyone is happy, well-motivated and healthy. I look forward to welcoming you and your child into the St Katherine's community and working with you as they begin their exciting learning journey.

Yours Faithfully

Headteacher



HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT

St Katherine's School & Nursery is committed to working in partnership with all families in order to provide the highest quality of education and pastoral care.

AS THE PARENT/ CARER I WILL...

- Ensure my child attends school every day, on time, and inform the school office of any absence on the first morning. **I understand that good attendance is essential for my child's learning, wellbeing and future success.**
- Provide the correct uniform and the appropriate uniform PE/swimming kit, in line with the school uniform policy.
- Model school values on the school site at all times.
- Attend Parent Evenings to discuss the child's progress.
- Support my child with home learning and encourage positive learning habits.
- Inform the school of any concerns or issues that may affect my child's wellbeing or learning.
- Report concerns or complaints appropriately following school procedures rather than using social media.
- Support school policies and guidelines to help maintain a positive and consistent learning environment.

THE SCHOOL WILL...

- Provide a high standard of education and carefully monitor your each child's progress.
- Have high expectations of your child in all areas of school life.
- Inform you about the teaching and learning so you know what your child is studying.
- Keep you updated on your child's progress throughout the year.
- Provide a fun, safe and nurturing environment in which children can learn and thrive.
- Let you know about any concerns that may affect your child's learning, wellbeing or behaviour.
- Keep you informed about school activities through the school website, regular emails, texts, Facebook and newsletters.
- Follow school policies and guidelines to ensure consistency, fairness and high standards.

TOGETHER WE WILL...

- Help children to achieve their best by treating them fairly and valuing them as learners and as individuals.
- Teach children to develop a positive attitudes towards one another, celebrating and respecting differences.
- Celebrate children's academic and personal achievements to build confidence, pride and motivation.
- Encourage children to become active members within our community and empower them to recognise the impact they can have on the world around them.
- Promote responsibility and good citizenship within the school and wider community.

CHILDREN WILL...

- Follow and demonstrate the School Values in all aspects of school life.
- Try my best to complete home learning and take pride in my work.
- Take good care of my equipment and uniform, including my PE kit.
- Be well behaved and respectful towards others in school.
- Be aspiration, aim high in all I do and always try to improve.

NURSERY - FREE EARLY YEARS EDUCATION

At St Katherine's, we have the capacity for **52 places per session and 32 places for the lunch session**. Places are allocated based on availability, at the time of application. If more parents apply for a place at the Nursery class than there are places available (which is known as "over-subscription"), decisions are made using clear established criteria:

- The sessions available at the time of application, based on a first come, first served basis.
- A small number of places will be offered to children with special educational, social, emotional or medical needs, as assessed by the multi-agency Early Years meeting.
- Children of staff.

All children become eligible for 15 hours of free nursery education, the school term after their third birthday.

Children born between:

1st April & 31st August

1st September & 31st December

1st January & 31st March

Free funding will start:

Term 1 - September

Term 3 - January

Term 5 – April

If both parents are working, **you may be eligible for 30 hours a week childcare**, subject to meeting certain criteria. Applications can be made at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Each child will be funded to a maximum of 15 universal hours per week, with an extended 15 hours per week entitlement offered as a funded place, **depending on the 30 hours eligibility criteria**. Places will be allocated based on availability, at the time of application.

Our **totally free** offer for **15 hours** is **5 x am or pm sessions**.

Our **totally free** offer for **30 hours** is **4 x full days and 1 x am or pm session**.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office or Nursery Team.

PAID EARLY EDUCATION

Parents who wish for their child to join our nursery, prior to qualifying for funded sessions, can start when they reach their 3rd birthday and **pay for their sessions until their free entitlement funding begins**. Parents who require extra sessions (more than 15 hours or if applicable 30 hours) will be charged for those extra sessions:

Sessions:	
AM Session – 8.45am to 11.45am	3 hours free or £19.50 (£6.50 per hour)
PM Session – 12.30pm to 3.30pm	3 hours free or £19.50 (£6.50 per hour)
Full School Day – 8.45am to 3.30pm	6.75 hours free or £44 (please supply a packed lunch)
<i>If children are staying for the full day, they need to be provided with a healthy packed lunch (please refer to page 14 of the Welcome Booklet).</i>	
Extended Day:	
Breakfast Club – 7.30am – 8.40am	£4.50 (includes breakfast)
After School Club – 3.30pm – 6pm (except Friday)	£12.50 (includes snack and light meal)

Fees continue to be payable if a child is absent. In cases of prolonged absences, parents should consult the Nursery Lead about fees payable. **Each child's attendance at the setting is conditional upon continued payment of any necessary fees.** If your child is ill on an extra session that is not selected on the Parental Declaration Agreement form, then payment is still applicable, unfortunately, it cannot be swapped for a funded day. This would also apply to school lunches. Breakfast and After School clubs need to be booked in advance via the online booking system – these payments are also non-refundable.

Payments can be made **via your child's Arbor account, which is set up during the enrolment process.** **We also accept childcare vouchers.**

Should the Nursery be unable to open, due to the weather or any other unforeseen circumstances, alternative sessions will be offered or fees credited to your account.

STARTING AT ST KATHERINE'S SCHOOL & NURSERY

We work closely with families to ensure a smooth and positive transition into our school. We recognise that some children may require an adapted approach, which can be discussed with parents prior to visits.

NURSERY

- Welcome pack and tour of setting
- Initial phone call with our Nursery Lead
- Home visit to discuss your child's well-being, interests and start date

RECEPTION

- Welcome pack
- Nursery visit or discussion (if your child attends a nursery)
- Home visit – if your child does not attend a nursery setting.
- Taster sessions

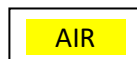
YEAR 1 – YEAR 6

- Welcome Pack
- Phone call/meeting with the Class Teacher to discuss your child's well-being and interests
- Contact with previous school where necessary
- Taster days (available on request)

HOUSE SYSTEM

On joining the school, your child will be allocated to a House Team, named after the four natural elements.

These are:



Your child will wear this colour for their PE t-shirt. On the days your child has PE they are to come to school dressed in their PE kit.

PE t-shirts and all uniform can be purchased from **Pages School Wear, Maidstone:**

<https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/Products/Index?schoolId=64> . Further details regarding school uniform are on page 14.



SCHOOL LIFE

BEGINNING OF SCHOOL DAY

- The grey gates on the lower playground are **opened at 8:25am and classroom doors open at 8:30am.**

END OF SCHOOL DAY

- The grey gates on the lower playground are **opened at 3:15pm and all children leave their classroom at 3.20pm.**
- Year 5 and Year 6 children, **for whom we have written permission,** can walk home alone.

ATTENDANCE & ABSENCE

Parents/ carers have a legal duty under the Education Act 1996 to ensure that any child of compulsory school age attends school on a regular basis. Good attendance and punctuality are essential for children to make strong academic and personal progress, and we encourage families to establish positive routines early.

If your child is absent from school, please:

- Report the absence by **emailing absence@st-katherines.kent.sch.uk or calling the school office on 01634 240061**
- **Please contact us before 8.15am to advise of the reason.** Failure to confirm a reason for absence could result in an unauthorised absence being recorded.
- **Provide written evidence for all appointments.**
- **Note that holidays during term time are not authorised**

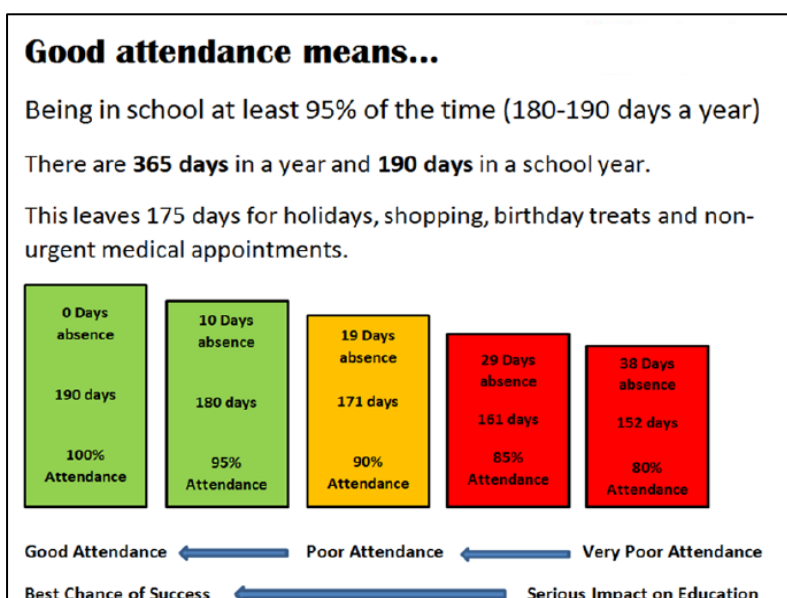
If we have not been contacted regarding your child's absence and cannot confirm their safety, we may **conduct a safeguarding home visit.**

WHY DOES ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY MATTER?

Attending school regularly is essential for your child's learning, wellbeing and long-term success. Good attendance helps children build strong habits for later life and the working world. Being in school every day gives your child the opportunity

- Make friends and feel included
- Learn new things and develop their skills
- Increase their confidence and self-esteem
- Improve their social skills
- Achieve their full potential and fulfil their aspirations

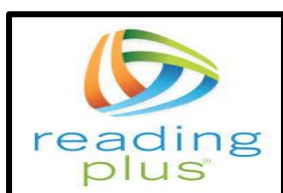
The school gate opens at 8.25am and close at 8:40am. It is important that your child arrives to school on time **EVERY** morning, as frequent lateness interrupts their own and other children's learning.



HOME LEARNING

Home learning tasks are set regularly across the school, but the quantity and format depend on the age of the child. The key areas where you can support your child are in reading (each night), times table, spellings or phonic sound practice.

In Key Stage 2, we also integrate Reading Plus and IXL, online reading and maths programmes, into home learning. This allows children to access and practise their learning both at home and in school, and receive instant feedback on their progress.



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Our school has extensive grounds, which are used for outdoor learning and a wide range of sporting activities. We also make full use of the local area for geographical fieldwork (right), digital art projects and enrichment opportunities such as our public church services and singing performances for Pilgrims View Care Home.

We have a large field used for a variety of sporting activities across the year, including two trim trails. Our purposefully designed Forest School, located on the school grounds, provides children with opportunities to learn forest craft, develop resilience and explore the natural environment (right).

Our Sensory Garden offers a calm and quiet space where children can learn, reflect and support their well-being.

All children have regular opportunities to learn in the outdoor areas - come rain or shine – helping them develop confidence, curiosity and a love of the natural world.



OUTDOOR LEARNING FOR NURSERY & RECEPTION

We ask parents and carers to provide a pair of wellies, which will remain at school throughout the year. We also ask children to come in with a suitable coat with a hood, as they will use the outside areas in all weathers. In the summer, children should come to school wearing a sun hat and sun cream to help keep them safe in the warmer conditions.

SWIMMING

At St Katherine's, we are very fortunate to have our own swimming pool on site. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum and, as such, **all children are expected to take part**. Lessons are delivered by our trained swimming teacher and take place throughout the year. Our aim is that **every child is able to swim a minimum of 25 metres unaided, and understand safe self-rescue** by the time they leave our school.

Children in Year 1 to Year 6 rotate their swimming termly and swim once a week for three out of six terms. Children in Reception swim once a week in terms 3 and 4, and again in Terms 5 and 6. There is a cost for swimming, which is determined at the beginning of each academic year.



LEARNING SPACES AND WELLBEING

At St Katherine's, we are committed to meeting the educational and well-being needs of all children. Our school benefits from **a well-stocked library**, which children visit regularly to develop a love of reading and explore a wide range of texts. We also have a dedicated **Art Room** where children work with our Resident Artist to develop their creativity and artistic skills. To further support well-being, we provide access to **a Nurture Classroom, a Sensory Room and a Sensory Circuit Room**, offering calm, structured and supportive environments tailored to children's emotional, sensory and physical regulation needs.



PUPIL VOICE

At St Katherine's, we believe that children play an important part in shaping their educational experiences and contributing to the development of our school. We provide a range of opportunities for pupils to take on key roles across the school, such as School Ambassadors and a variety of Pupil Leader positions, helping them to develop their personal, social and leadership skills. We also carry out pupil conferencing to ensure that children have a genuine voice in their school. This enables them to share their views, influence decision-making and contribute to ongoing improvements within St Katherine's.

CLUBS & EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

As a school, we are proud to offer a wide and exciting range of clubs, giving children opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills and take part in enriching experiences before school, at lunchtime and after school. Our club offer includes activities such as art, mindfulness, origami, dance, choir, formula 1 stem racing and many more. The school also have established cheerleading, football, netball and tag rugby teams, giving children regular opportunities to represent the school in competitions.



COMMUNICATION

At St Katherine's School & Nursery, our main form of communication is **via Arbor**. Please ensure that the school office have your most up-to-date email address so that we can contact you quickly in the event of an emergency. If parents or carers need to contact the school, they can do so by phoning **01634 240061** or emailing_office@st-katherines.kent.sch.uk.

PAYMENTS

St Katherine's is **a cashless school** and operates a **'No Debt Policy.'** All payments for school dinners, trips, wrap around care, nursery fees and other services must be paid through Arbor. Using Arbor saves time for parents, and provides a fully auditable system, enabling both families and the school to track and monitor payments easily. This includes payments for services such as the extended day, trips and swimming.

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

The school website is <https://www.stkatherineskent.co.uk>. Please visit our website for your child's curriculum coverage sheets, policies, term dates, presentations from parent workshops and all other key information. We also have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stkatherinessnodland> where school events and curriculum outcomes are posted on a weekly basis.

PARENT NEWSLETTER

Mr Lang's newsletter is sent to parents fortnightly and contains key information about school events and curriculum learning. It also shares children's successes and signposts parents/ carers to important dates and community activities.

PARENT VOICE GROUP

Working in partnership with parents is of the utmost importance to us, and greatly value parent feedback. Parent Voice groups are formed in the autumn term and run throughout the year, with a parent representative from each class meeting regularly with the Headteacher to discuss a wide range of topics and help further improve the school. This ensures that families have a meaningful role in shaping school development and that communication between home and school remains strong.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The PTA play a key role in giving something extra for the children of St Katherine's. Working closely with the school, they help fund new equipment and support the purchase of additional resources. The PTA meets approximately every six weeks to discuss fund raising, plan events and ensure parents are kept informed. They are always keen to hear from parents who would like to join the committee or help at events. To find out more visit: <https://www.facebook.com/SKSSPTA/>

COMMUNITY EXPERTS & CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

Many of our parents and carers work in professions that inspire children and link directly to our curriculum. If you are a vet, police officer, doctor, or work in a field that could enrich our topics, we would love to hear from you. This may involve visiting the school to talk about your roles, share your expertise and help bring learning to life.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS

St Katherine's School & Nursery recognises the valuable contribution that educational visits and additional activities make to children's learning. Trips, performances, clubs and residential trips experiences help to enhance and enrich the curriculum, providing meaningful opportunities beyond the classroom. When organising events and activities, the school invites parents and carers to contribute to the cost, which we aim to keep a minimum. Under the terms of the Education Reform Act (1988), parents/ carers are advised that such contributions are voluntary. However, if insufficient contributions are received, the trip may not be able to go ahead.



SPECIALIST SUPPORT

St Katherine's School & Nursery values the individuality of every child and is committed to ensuring all pupils fulfil their potential, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or background. We believe that all children — including those with special educational needs — are entitled to a broad, balanced and accessible curriculum, and to full inclusion in all aspects of school life. We work hard to ensure every child feels valued, eliminate prejudice and discrimination, and create an environment where all children can flourish, feel safe and succeed.

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DSL)

Safeguarding pupils and staff is foremost in the minds of all staff at all times. Should staff members have any concerns relating to children or other members of staff they are reported immediately to a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

The DSLs at St Katherine's School & Nursery are:



Mr Lang (Headteacher)



Miss Aikenhead (Deputy Headteacher)



Mrs Loveland (Assistant Headteacher & SENCO)



Mr Tweddle (Assistant Headteacher)



Mrs Webb (Nursery Lead)



Mrs Rodmell (Office Manager)

NURTURE TEAM

The Nurture Team provide support to children to enable them to access their learning to their full potential. This may include: ELSA, Drawing and Talking Therapy and many other interventions. These interventions aim to provide children with the tools required to breakdown any barriers to learning.

1:1 SUPPORT

As and when required, we are able to offer 1:1 support. This enables our children to be given the opportunity to learn the same as their peers but in a personalised way that they benefit from.

INCLUSION MANAGER (SENCO)

Should you feel you need to discuss any aspects of educational needs, wellbeing or nurture for you child, please contact the school office to make an appointment to see either the SENCO (Mrs Loveland).

THE DOG MENTOR

Mylo is our much-loved Dog Mentor, supporting children across the school in a calm and

nurturing way. The benefits of having Mylo in school include:

- A calming effect on children and staff.
- Improved behavior, concentration and self-esteem.
- Encouraging expression, participation and confidence.
- Fostering responsibility and positive routines.
- Promoting respect, helping strengthening relationships with peers, parents and staff.
- Teaching children to nurture and care for living things.
- Building confidence in speaking, listening and reading.
- Supporting improved attendance.



WRAP AROUND CARE

St Katherine's School & Nursery offers a welcoming and nurturing wrap-around care provision for children in Nursery to Year 6.

- The Breakfast Club (Breakfast Badgers) **opens at 7.30am and runs until 8:40am**.
- Our After-School Club (Teatime Turtles) **runs from the end of the school day until 6pm**, offering a relaxed yet stimulating environment where children can unwind, play and enjoy a light tea such as beans on toast, wraps, pasta and toasties.

All clubs are managed by the school and staffed by experienced school personnel, who support the children to feel safe, settled and supported. **All places must be pre-booked via Arbor**. If you need an unexpected booking, please telephone the school office and we will do our best to help.

FIRST AID

At St Katherine's School & Nursery, we record any accidents that occur in school and any member of our staff administering first aid hold a valid certificate of competence, such as paediatric first aid training.

If your child has an accident at school and requires first aid, you will be informed via a message sent through our Medical Tracker app, which you will receive as an email. A trained first aider will complete an online record detailing the incident, the injury sustained, and the treatment provided, and this will be sent directly to you.

If your child has been involved in an incident that we consider more severe – for example a serious head injury or an accident requiring medical treatment – a member of the school office will contact you as quickly as possible. We will also contact the emergency services if required, before recording the details on Medical Tracker.

MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

There may be occasions when your child needs medication during the school day. We are able to support your child with this when doses cannot be administered outside school hours (for example, when a child requires four doses a day) In these circumstances, the following procedures are to be followed:

- Medication must be provided in the original container that it was dispensed in, with the pharmacy label and dosage instructions clearly visible.
- Parents/ carers must complete the parental consent form, including the required dose and times it should be administered. No medication will be administered without this written consent.

EPI-PENS/ PRESCRIBED CREAMS

Allergies are an important medical need for some children, and prescribed medicines for these must be kept in school. Before any medicines can be administered, parents/ carers must complete a medical form from the School Office, and all medicines must be clearly labelled with your child's name and the required dosage. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that replacement epi-pens, creams and other prescribed items are provided in good time.

ASTHMA

We recognise that some children suffer from asthma and take all reasonable steps to ensure they can fully participate in all aspects of school life. Inhalers are always accessible to asthmatic children during the school day. Parents/carers must ensure that inhalers are clearly labelled with their child's name and replacement inhalers are provided before the expiry date.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS & FAMILY SUPPORT

Children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to government-funded free school meals, with no application required. For children in Years 3-6, payment is required for school meals, **unless parents/carers have applied for Free School Meals.**

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you are entitled to certain benefits, please apply for Free School Meals as soon as possible – even if your child is in Year R, 1 and 2. This ensures the entitlement automatically continues into Year 3, without the need to reapply.

In order to check eligibility, you will be asked to complete a section in our admissions form, and we will then verify this for you. Alternatively, you can apply online at: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

All school meals are prepared and cooked daily on site by our contract catering company. Menus are worked **on a three-week cycle,** and children choose their meal during morning registration. **Please ensure your child only requests a school dinner if a pre- payment has been made via Arbor.**

Pre-payment not required for children receiving Free School Meals or Universal Infant Free School Meals, but meals still need to be ordered so the kitchen can prepare the correct quantities.

We understand that, on occasion, a school meal may be needed at short notice (for example, a forgotten packed lunch). The catering company will provide a meal on the understanding that payment is made promptly. They may refuse to supply further meals if outstanding payments remain.



WATER BOTTLES & SNACKS

St Katherine's are part of the 'Healthy Schools' initiative, and we kindly ask that all children bring in a clearly labelled bottle of water to drink throughout the day. Bottles can be refilled as needed. Please note that the bottle **should contain water only - squash and juice are not permitted.**

Children in the early years and key stage one (Years 1 & 2) receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable each day through the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme (SFVS). Children in Year 3 and above may bring a small healthy snack (fruit or vegetables only) for morning playtime. Sugary fruit snacks, such as fruit winders, are not allowed.

HEALTHY LUNCHBOX & SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Children who do not require a school meal should bring in their own packed lunch. As a Healthy School, we kindly ask parents to limit high sugar and high-fat foods – bars of chocolate and fizzy drinks are not permitted. Our lunchtime supervisors monitor lunchboxes, and if a child regularly brings in too many sugary or high-fat food items, we will contact parents to discuss healthier alternatives. Please note that we are a **nut free school**, so no nuts of any kind should be included in packed lunches. For ideas and guidance, visit: [Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](#)

As part of a community to reduce single-use plastics, and in line with our teaching on environmental responsibility, we kindly ask families to follow these guidelines:

- Use reusable drink containers instead of single-use plastic bottles or cartons
- Avoid plastic straws
- Buy larger yoghurt pots and spoon it into smaller reusable containers
- Use a lunchbox with compartments rather than single-wrapped items



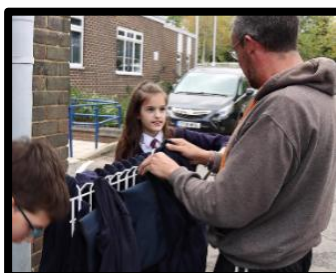
SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform is important to us. Our children look smart and feel proud to belong to St Katherine's, and their uniform reflects the tone and ethos of our school. It helps us identify ourselves as a school community, promotes a strong, and cohesive identity, and supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. Uniform also promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and enhances security when pupils are off site.

School uniform is part of our ethos and by choosing **St Katherine's**, parents agree to support our policy. **Please remember to name all items of clothing.**

At St Katherine's School & Nursery we believe that uniform should be affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform. Uniform can be purchased **by visiting Pages School wear at Unit 7-8 Granada House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JR or ordered via their website**, whereby you will have the option for your order to be delivered to your home or to the school. For more information, please go to <http://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/Products/Index?schoold=64>

We also have our Community Wardrobe that has second hand school uniform available for a voluntary donation.



WINTER UNIFORM:

- Grey skirt, grey pinafore dress and grey trousers
- Grey or white socks and grey tights
- Plain white shirt
- Navy blue jumper with logo or without
- School tie (not required in Nursery)
- Black shoes (trainers are not permitted)



SUMMER UNIFORM:

- Grey skirt, grey pinafore dress, grey trousers and grey shorts
- Navy blue and white checked dress
- Grey or white socks and grey tights
- Plain white shirt
- Navy blue jumper with logo or without
- School tie (not required in Nursery)
- Black shoes (trainers are not permitted)



PE & SPORT

- Navy blue shorts
- T-shirt (Colour of house – red, green, yellow or blue)
- Black plimsolls / Trainers
- Plain trainers for outside only and trim trail
- Swimming trunks/shorts or swimming costume (not bikini), swimming hats
- Navy blue tracksuit

GENERAL

- Book bags
- PE bags
- Sunglasses are not allowed (unless medically necessary)
- Sun cream in the summer months must be applied before school
- Warm winter coat
- Sun hat for summer



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOOTWEAR

It is school policy that all children to wear **black shoes**. Trainers, canvas footwear, plastic shoes and or open-toed sandals are not permitted.

HAIRSTYLES

Children's hair should be neatly groomed. Long hair that reaches past shoulder length – for both boys and girls - should be tied back to help prevent the spread of head lice. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. Children may not have distinctive lines designs or words cut into their hair, nor may they have permanent or temporary coloured hair. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum, and hair colouring/highlighting is not permitted.

HAIR ACCESSORIES

Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain black or navy (the school colours). Hairbands should not be oversized or flamboyant.

JEWELLERY INCLUDING WATCHES

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exception to this is small stud earrings worn in pierced ears. Earrings must be no larger than the child's earlobe, sit close to the ear, and be plain in colour (small jewel, gold or silver) as agreed with the Pupil Leadership Team (Summer 2025). All studs must be removed for PE lessons to prevent injury. Staff are unable to remove earrings for children, and they cannot be covered with tape.

Children may wear a small suitable watch to school from Year 2 onwards. Please note that smart watches are not permitted. The school will be unable to take responsibility for any watches or jewellery that is lost.

HATS, HEADSCARVES or HEADWARE

Head coverings inside the school building are not permitted unless it is due to religious reasons. School hats for winter and summer should be as plain as possible and ideally in the school colour of navy. School hats are available with the St Katherine's logo from [School Uniform – Pages School Wear \(pages-schoolwear.co.uk\)](https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk).

NAIL POLISH & MAKE-UP

For health and safety reasons, children's nails should be cut to a short length. Children should not wear nail varnish or false nails to school and make-up is not permitted.

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Pupil Premium Funding is allocated to schools by the government, based on the number of children entitled to receive Free School Meals. This funding is used in a variety of ways to help support individual children and the wider school community, including:

- Funding or part-funding Teaching Assistants to support individuals, small groups and classes to help children achieve their academic potential.
- Providing targeted resources to support and improve achievement.
- Funding non-academic interventions, such as programmes to build self-esteem, develop social skills, improve relationships and increase confidence.
- Subsidising extra-curricular activities, visitors and performers to the school for individual children.
- Subsidising or part subsidising school trips and uniforms for individual children.

Your child may qualify for Pupil Premium funding if they meet one of the following criteria:

- a) Eligible for free school meals now or at any point in the last six years.
- b) Have a parent currently serving in the armed forces.
- c) Are in care, have been adopted children from care, or have left care under a special guardianship order.

It is extremely important that families claim Free School Meals whenever eligible. For each eligible child, the school receives funding for the next six years, even if family circumstances change.

Children may be eligible if their parent/ carer is receiving:

- a) *Universal Credit – annual salary of £7,400 or less in Universal Credit payments. This equals an average of £616.67 per month in net earned income (after deductions).*
- b) *Working Tax Credit ‘run-on’ – the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax credit.*
- c) *Child Tax Credit, providing you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.*
- d) *Income Support*
- e) *Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance.*
- f) *Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.*
- g) *Support under Part VU of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.*
- h) *The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit*

Or your child has been

- a) *Looked after by the local authority.*
- b) *Has been adopted from care.*
- c) *Has left care under a special guardianship.*

In order to check if your child is eligible for this, **you will be asked to complete a section in our admissions form and we will then be able to check if your child is eligible.**

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY

If at any time your family are experiencing financial difficulty at any time, please contact the Headteacher or the school office to discuss the support we may be able to offer. There may be assistance available, for example help with activities or support with uniform costs.

VISION AND VALUES

Our vision and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin teaching and learning and help us create an environment that promotes an ethic of excellence and aspiration throughout our school.

We place a great emphasis on developing the 'whole child', and we pride ourselves on nurturing the well-being and personal growth of every pupil. Our curriculum brings learning to life and supports children's Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development. Wherever possible, we make meaningful links to the school's locality, history and current affairs to deepen understanding and broaden horizons.

British Values are promoted both explicitly and throughout the curriculum. We recognise that our local demographic is less diverse as the wider region, so we plan opportunities for children to be exposed to, learn about and appreciate different cultures, religions and world views. This supports our children to 'See Beyond Snodland' and ensures that they are well-prepared for life in modern Britain.



SCHOOL CONTACTS



St Katherine's School & Nursery
St Katherine's Lane,
Snodland
Kent
ME6 5EJ

Headteacher: Mr Lang

Deputy Headteacher: Miss Aikenhead

Assistant Headteacher & SENCO: Mrs Loveland

Assistant Headteacher: Mr Tweddle

Director of Inclusion and Education: Mr Trevor North

CEO of the Coppice Primary Partnership: Mr Chatley

Email: office@st-katherines.kent.sch.uk

Absence Email: absence@st-katherines.kent.sch.uk

Telephone: 01634 240061

Website: www.stkatherineskent.co.uk

Facebook: [St Katherine's School & Nursery](https://www.facebook.com/SKSSPTA/)

PTA (Parent Teacher Association): <https://www.facebook.com/SKSSPTA/>

SCHOOL TERM DATES



Academic Year 2026 – 2027

Autumn - Term 1	
INSET Day	Tuesday 1 st September 2026 (children not in school)
Start School	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
Last Day of Term	Thursday 15 th October 2026
INSET Day	Friday 16 th October 2026 (children not in school)
October Half Term	Monday 19 th October - 30 th October 2026

Autumn - Term 2	
Start School	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 th December 2026
Christmas Holidays	21 st December 2026 – 1 st January 2027

Spring - Term 3	
INSET Day	Monday 4 th January 2027 (children not in school)
Start School	Tuesday 5 th January 2027
Last Day of Term	Friday 12 th February 2027
February Half Term	15 th February – 19 th February 2027

Spring - Term 4	
School Starts	Monday 22 nd February 2027
Last Day of Term	Thursday 25 th March 2027
Bank Holiday Friday	Friday 26 th March 2027 (children not in school)
Bank Holiday Monday	Monday 29 th March 2027 (children not in school)
Easter Holidays	26 th March – 9 th April 2027

Summer - Term 5	
School Starts	Monday 12 th April 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2027
Last Day of Term	Friday 28 th May 2027
May Half Term	31 st May – 4 th June 2027

Summer - Term 6	
School Starts	Monday 7 th June 2027
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 21 st July 2027