

School Equality Information (January 2015)

The school has specific duties under the Equality Act 2010 to:

- publish information which shows they have due regard for equalities, as defined by the Act
- Publish equality objectives
- Update information annually

Description of School

- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is an average size school (NOR 381, May 2016) in the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth catering for children from age 4 to 11. The school is located in Parkstone which is a suburb of Poole. The school is part of 'Plymouth CAST', a Multi Academy Trust which includes all the Catholic Schools within the diocese of Plymouth. Children who attend school are primarily from the parishes of St Joseph's, Our Lady of Fatima and St Walburgh's. 54% of the children at school are baptised Catholic. A number of children of other faiths also attend the school whose parents wish them to be educated in a Catholic environment.
- The school serves the local area which has a deprivation indicator which is broadly in line with the national average. The local area is characterised by mixed housing consisting of council properties, owner occupied, rental properties and housing association. A significant minority of children at the school are from a Local Authority 'priority area'.
- The school has very close links with the local parish. Our parish priest Fr Chris Findlay-Wilson regularly leads in conjunction with the children liturgical and Eucharistic celebrations in the school.
- There are effective links with the 16 local pre-school groups (entry 2014) leading to effective transitional arrangements. The majority of children from school at Y6 transfer to St Edward's Catholic CE Comprehensive School in Poole.
- In 2013 the PAN in Reception was increased from 45 to 60. By September 2015 Governors agreed to a PAN of 60 in YR to Y4. A PAN of 45 remains in Y5 and Y6. The school is currently organised into 13 classes.

Pupil characteristics:

- Currently there are 381 children on role (May, 2016); with an equal proportion of boys and girls. The school population is broadly similar in characteristics to the national average in terms of the proportions of children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM 12%), proportion of children supported through the governments Pupil Premium (17%), children on the SEN register (SEN 18%) and children who have English as a second language (EAL 27%). We have 16 different language spoken other than English in school with the most popular being Polish (25), Malayalam (10) and Portuguese (7).
- The proportion of children with English as an Additional Language is rising over time at the school with 41% of children having EAL in EYFS and 13% in Y6. This is reflected in the growing amount of children from non-white British backgrounds over time. The proportion of children entitled to FSM has remained consistent over time.
- There are currently no CLA children in school. Of the 69 children on the SEN register there are three children with EHCP. Typically SEN relate to specific learning difficulties and speech language and communication needs.
- Attendance during spring term 2016 was 95.17%