



English Martyrs'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents,

5th September 2025

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you are feeling well rested after the Summer holidays. It is wonderful to see everyone looking so refreshed and excited at the prospect of another year of learning here at English Martyrs'.

I wish all our pupils, staff, governors and parents a very happy and rewarding year ahead filled with God's many gifts and blessings for our school community. We extend a very special welcome to our new pupils and parents. We look forward to working in partnership with you in the education of your child.

Staffing 2025/26

Headteacher Leader of KS1/EYFS SEND CO	Mrs Ellis Miss Daykin Miss Firth	Deputy Headteacher Leader of KS2	Mr Blurton Mrs Hickling
Reception	Miss Daykin/ Mrs Lawrence		
Year 1	Miss Tomlinson		
Year 2	Miss Firth/ Miss Daykin		
Year 2	Miss Keeton		
Year 3	Mrs Newham		
Year 3/4	Mrs Oldershaw		
Year 4	Mrs Young		
Year 5	Mr Watson		
Year 5/6	Miss Bosworth		
Year 6	Mrs Hickling/ Mr Blurton		

As some of you may know, Miss Cope and her partner welcomed baby Harry into their wonderful family in June. He is absolutely gorgeous, and I know you join me in sending them our well wishes.

We welcome Mrs Linzi Kent to the school team as she joins the office team alongside Mrs Salt. Please do be patient whilst she gets used to the routines and procedures at English Martyrs'.

Mrs McElhone is taking a well-earned sabbatical this half term. The pastoral team work will continue in the same way in her absence.

I will not be available in school from the week beginning 15th September until after the half term, Mr Blurton will be leading the school in my absence with the support of Miss Daykin and Mrs Hickling.

Communication

If you have any queries or concerns about school life please make contact, in the first instance, with your child's class teacher who will always try to help you. The school diaries are the best method of passing on messages/notes to the class teachers as these are checked daily. Mornings can be quite busy and although



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Bracken Rd, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4DA
Tel: 0115 973 3209
enquiries@eng.srscmat.co.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



English Martyrs'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

staff can be available for quick messages first thing in the morning, if you need to arrange a meeting, please make an appointment through the school office.

If you have a concern about your child or any aspect of their education this is the procedure you need to follow:

- *Class Teacher* - Firstly, make an appointment to speak with the child's class teacher and book a follow up appointment where required.
- *Key Stage Leader* - Following this if your problem has not been resolved, you need to contact the school office to make an appointment to speak with the Key Stage Leader.
- *Senior Leader* - If you still have a concern a meeting will be arranged with Mr Blurton
- *Headteacher* - If a more formal approach is then required a meeting with Mrs Ellis will be arranged.

Please do consider how staff are communicated with and treated. Unfortunately, we had an increasing number of occasions last academic year where staff were spoken to, both verbally and in email form, very inappropriately. We understand education can be very emotive, but we are all human and we do appreciate a respectful approach to communication.

Please check your child's book bag and Home School Diary each day. This will contain details of what books your child is reading, homework, and other bits of useful information like logins. We hope that the diary will give you an insight into what your child is doing in school and act as a form of two-way communication between home and school. We would be grateful if you could check and sign your child's diary each week as well as recording details of activities completed at home e.g. daily reading, spelling practice.

The school website www.englishmartyrslong Eaton.srscmat.co.uk is updated regularly with the latest information, photographs, events, etc. The school calendar and latest newsletters can also be found there.

If you need to contact the school, please do so by telephone or by sending an email to enquiries@eng.srscmat.co.uk. We will respond to parent requests within 2 school days as it's not always possible for staff to respond immediately. Thank you for your understanding.

We have an active Instagram page, @englishmartyrscva and have recently started a Facebook page too, which can be joined using the QR code at the end of the newsletter.

We have lots of events coming up in the Advent term so please do take note of the dates in the school calendar attached to this newsletter. We are going to be using the noticeboards (KS1 playground and school entrance) around school more to display external agency information to try and alleviate the traffic on Parent Hub so that key messages reach families.

Key learning for the half term will now be on the website rather than in Phase newsletters and any key messages from each Phase will be shared in this whole school newsletter, again to try and keep information more streamlined.



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Bracken Rd, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4DA
Tel: 0115 973 3209
enquiries@eng.srscmat.co.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



English Martyrs'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Attendance

Punctuality is very important, getting the children into good habits at the start of the term is essential. Please ensure that your child arrives no later than 8.45am and is collected promptly at the end of the day by 3.15pm.

We are very proud of our excellent attendance figures, and we will work with families to remove barriers where we can, so please do speak to class teachers if there are any issues with getting children to school on time. We review attendance figures half termly and it is our duty of care to contact families where there may be issues with attendance and lateness.

If your child is ill, please notify the school as early as possible. If we do not hear from a family regarding an absence, it is our policy to make a home visit by 11am due to safeguarding. Pupils who have been sick/have had diarrhoea, should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout. If a child becomes ill during school, they should be collected as soon as possible. Therefore, it is vital that we have up-to-date information of telephone numbers including home, work and mobile numbers to enable us to contact you in an emergency.

Please do speak to the school office before booking any time off during term time for your child and complete a request for absence form. They are available from the office or on the website. Absences during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, please do take note of the National Framework for Penalty Notices changes from last academic year.

- First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

- Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

- Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Uniform

At English Martyrs', by specifying our school uniform, we aim for straightforward and traditional styles to maintain consistency and avoid trends. It must be implemented universally and without exception. We do expect that our parents can support us in upholding the school's high standards. Last academic year, we had several children with incorrect or no PE kit at all on numerous occasions, please do contact the school office if any support is needed with any uniform and we can help. If children do arrive at school with incorrect uniform, parents will be contacted and alternative, correct uniform will be given to children.



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Bracken Rd, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4DA
Tel: 0115 973 3209
enquiries@eng.srscmat.co.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



English Martyrs'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Classes will access PE twice a week so if they can bring PE kits in on a Monday and they can take them home on a Friday for washing. Forest School will run fortnightly for each class and kit can stay in school for the half term unless it needs a wash in between. We do go outside for PE, Forest School, playtimes and lunchtimes regardless of the weather so please ensure the children always have a suitable coat and correct uniform with them as we only have limited extra coats and spare uniform

A reminder of the school uniform needed for September:

Autumn/ Winter <ul style="list-style-type: none">• White Shirt/Blouse (No polo shirts)• Royal Blue and Gold Tie (Available from school office)• Grey School Trousers or Grey Skirt• Grey or White Socks or Grey Tights (No over the knee socks)• Black Shoes (Fashion shoes, raised heels, trainers, open sandals and boots above ankle height are not permitted)• Royal Blue Pullover, Sweatshirt or Cardigan (Can be with school logo or without)	Summer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short Sleeve White Shirt/Blouse (No polo shirts)• Royal Blue and Gold Tie (Available from school office)• Royal Blue and White Check dress• Grey Shorts• Short or knee-high Grey or White Socks (No over the knee socks)• Black Shoes (Fashion shoes, trainers, raised heels, open sandals and boots above ankle height are not permitted)• Royal Blue Cardigan, Pullover or Sweatshirt (Can be with school logo or without)• Sunhat
PE Kit (no logos or brands please) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• White polo shirt with school logo or plain white t-shirt• Plain blue shorts• Navy tracksuit bottoms will be required in the colder months• Black plimsolls and trainers• An optional hoodie is also available and can be ordered directly from the school office• A bag to keep PE uniform, which can be hung on a coat peg will also be required.	Forest School <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wellies• All in one waterproof or 2-piece waterproof coat and trousers• Extra long-sleeved top, socks and jogging bottoms in cooler weather. <p><i>Please label all items of uniform</i></p>

We ask that parents be reminded of the school's following expectations:

- Long hair below the shoulder must be tied back. Please note – bobbles and headbands should be school colours
- Tramlines, patterns and sculpting are not allowed
- 1 set of simple stud earrings only are permitted and should be removed for PE
- Watches are allowed but only simple analogue ones, Smart watches are not permitted.
- Please do not allow children to bring toys from home into school.



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Bracken Rd, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4DA
Tel: 0115 973 3209
enquiries@eng.srscmat.co.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



English Martyrs'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Other notices for the beginning of the year

Birthdays

Children in all classes are invited to come to school in appropriate non-school uniform on their birthdays for a small donation to their class charity.

Can we please ask that sweets are not sent into school for birthdays, instead can we ask that a book (perhaps their favourite story) is donated to the class to share and a sticker will be added to the book to commemorate. This has always been a welcomed way to celebrate birthdays at English Martyrs' but seems to have been a little lost over the last few years, so we'd love to bring it back!

Break and Lunchtimes

Reception and KS1 children are all offered a piece of fruit at break time. If they do not enjoy the fruit offered, please provide an alternative fruit, vegetable or dairy snack only in a named container.

KS2 children should also have similar snacks at breaktimes, please do not send sweets or chocolate for breaktime or lunchtime snacks. Children will be asked to put these back in their bags until the end of the day.

Children receive free milk until their 5th birthday but if you would like your child to continue to access milk at school, please contact the school office.

Tuck shop

Tuck shop won't begin straight away as feedback from the trial last term needs to be looked at first by the new school council, new helpers trained up and new stock ordered. We will send out a notice once it starts again.

Donations

A small plea for the following items if any families are looking to find any of the following a new home! Just send into the office or let them know if you can help at all.

- Donations of newspapers for Art and DT activities please – we are running quite low as people are reading less and less print newspapers!
- Cable reels
- Plastic tubing
- Corrugated plastic tubing
- Wooden pallets
- Tyres

Thank you for your continued support, I am really looking forward to another wonderful year with lots to celebrate!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Ellis
Headteacher

Facebook QR code



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Bracken Rd, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4DA
Tel: 0115 973 3209
enquiries@eng.srscmat.co.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust