



# Our school prospectus



**St Giles' C of E (A) Infant School**

2

Introduction

...our teachers are kind and helpful

James, aged 6

4

School Community

Adults listen to us and help us

Adam, aged 5

6

Admissions and the School Day

8

The Curriculum

10

Activities

12

What our children say about us...



Thank you for your interest in St Giles' C of E (A) Infant School.

This prospectus will give you a glimpse of what our school has to offer.

More detailed information can be found on our web site – [www.stgiles.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stgiles.surrey.sch.uk).

We hope that this tells you all you need to know. If not, please just call and ask.

We are proud of our school and stand by our motto: **"Where curious minds flourish"**.

But don't simply take our word for it – come and see for yourself.

We would be delighted to show you around.







### **Ethos**

St Giles' is a small Church of England infant school. When it was founded in 1852 it was the first school in Ashted and remains at the heart of village life today. We believe that we are here to equip children with the skills they need to be life-long learners and whilst we are proud of our high standards and achievement, we focus on the development of the child in a friendly, family atmosphere. We want children to be equipped for life in the 21st century with secure learning skills, an understanding of Christian attitudes and values, the ability to relate to other people and a sense of self worth which will enable them to take their place in society.



**“Teachers get on well with their pupils and successfully support their personal development, ensuring that they enjoy school.”**

OFSTED

### **Aims**

- to establish a loving, caring community in which all children can feel secure and happy;
- to ensure that children learn to value Christian attitudes and to develop self-discipline;
- to recognise and provide for the individual needs of each pupil;
- to provide a safe and stimulating environment which will encourage a love for and curiosity about the world;
- to enable every child to become independent in their approach to life;
- to create an understanding of “how to learn”, equipping children to meet the demands of our ever changing society; and
- to prepare children for life in modern Britain.

4

## School Community



people listen to you

James

**The St Giles' School community is much wider than just the pupils and teaching staff. An active and enthusiastic PTA, a hard working governing body, close links with neighbouring schools, nurseries and playgroups and strong ties to the parish church and wider community, all support the high standards the school sets itself.**



the church clergy and children's team who come in weekly to lead assembly. As a church school, St Giles also encourages the children to participate in fundraising days for local and national children's charities; recent events include the NSPCC Maths Challenge and "Jeans for Genes".

### **Local Schools and Nurseries**

Our children's experience is enhanced by visits to and from other schools with the children having the opportunity to participate in the local schools' Arts Festival. We also have a dedicated Science Week with specialists coming in from other schools.



### **Staff**

All staff play an important role in looking after the children's wellbeing and promoting a caring and nurturing environment for the children.

### **The PTA**

The school has a thriving PTA which, in addition to providing much appreciated resources to enhance the children's learning experience, gives parents and carers the opportunity to socialise and have fun. The PTA summer fair and Christmas fair, as well as regular cookie sales, are particular highlights.

### **The Governors**

The Governing Body is made up of representatives from most parts of the school community including parents, staff, the local church and local authority. The Governors play an active part in school life, visiting the school regularly and seeking to support the high standards the school sets itself.

### **The Wider Community**

The school enjoys close links with the local community. The children regularly visit the local church to support RE topics, enjoy visits from the local community and



## Admissions and the School Day

### Admissions

Parents considering sending their children to this school should make an appointment to see the Head Teacher and visit the school in action. Early in the Spring term of the year the child is due to start school, application should be made on-line using the Surrey County Council preference form. If appropriate, the school's supplementary information form should also be completed.

Children will start school in the September prior to their fifth birthday generally on a full-time basis. In the term before entry, children and parents are invited to visit the school for an introductory session and a series of story times.

The school's admission policy is updated regularly and is available from the school office and may be found on the school website at [www.stgiles.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stgiles.surrey.sch.uk).

### Responding to Parental Concerns

The school aims to ensure that all children are happy and learning at school but should any concerns relating to the school arise, they should be taken to the Head Teacher who will endeavour to resolve them as quickly as possible.

### School Organisation

The school has three year groups arranged over three classes.

### The School Day

Each day begins at 8.45am and children are registered at 8.55am. Each day starts with registration with worship during the morning. There is a break of 15 minutes when the children go out to play and at noon there is one hour for lunch. School ends at 3pm.

### Being Happy and Healthy

Ensuring a happy, healthy environment in which our children enjoy learning is central to our ethos.



We do our utmost to make it easy for children to approach staff with their problems or concerns. We teach that bullying is never acceptable behaviour. We promote healthy eating, provide fruit snacks for children and encourage everyone to drink water throughout the day. We make the most of our wonderful outdoor space and, weather permitting, head outside as often as we can.

### Discipline

Children need boundaries so that they can know what is expected of them and so enjoy a sense of security. Children are expected to conform to the school rules – “Try hard, be kind, be polite and keep safe” which are designed to make them aware of their responsibility towards others and towards their environment. Our aim is to make children, as early as possible, self-controlled and self-disciplined.



**“St Giles’ really is a fantastic school with a very special team. I am so proud to say I work at St Giles’ Infant School.”**

Mrs J Tuttle, teacher



Where there is an ongoing discipline problem, staff will work alongside parents in trying to resolve the difficulty.

### **Supporting Each Other**

Collaboration and caring is encouraged at all levels, in both the staff and the pupils. Older children help younger children in the playground and the classroom. This happens both spontaneously and more formally through organised activities.

### **Uniform**

All children wear school uniform.

For girls – Navy crested pinafore, red polo shirt, navy crested cardigan, red tights/white socks, black shoes, navy coat and in the summer, red and white striped dress and red shoes (optional).

For boys – Grey shorts or trousers, red crested polo shirt, navy crested pullover, grey socks, black shoes, navy coat/blazer.

For P.E. – Both girls and boys wear navy blue shorts and a white t-shirt. Plain navy tracksuits are optional but are useful in the really cold weather.

There is a secondhand uniform scheme whereby parents can buy clothes which have been outgrown. Sales are usually held once a term.

Jewellery should not be worn and long hair must be tied back – hair bands in school colours may be worn.

### **Welfare**

The school recognises and is committed to its responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Hot school meals are cooked on site and are currently provided free to all infant school children. Parents may also purchase milk for their children to drink at morning break and fruit is provided free for all children. Sweets should not be brought into school.

We encourage all children to have a hot meal.

Please note due to an increasing number of children with nut allergies, we ask that no food containing nuts is brought into school.

It is the Authority's policy that no medicines or tablets, with the exception of asthma inhalers, insulin or epipens should be brought into school. Staff are able to administer a one-off dose of medication at the school but a permission form will need to be completed. Parents of children with inhalers, insulin or epipens should complete a School Health Plan.



It's fun to see  
and play with all  
my friends  
Sophie, aged 6

Our work is really  
interesting Archie, aged 5

...our teachers make it fun Katie, aged 6

The school provides a broad curriculum which places particular emphasis on the early acquisition of reading and number skills. Subjects, though listed here separately, are not always taught discreetly but are integrated into a themed approach through topics. Children are encouraged to be independent learners. Through the teaching of all subjects children develop skills and attitudes which prepare them for life in modern Britain.

#### **Teaching Methods**

Children learn in many different ways and, consequently, St Giles' provides a mixture of teaching approaches. Class lessons, group work and individual activities are followed at different times during the school week. Sometimes a class will work formally. At other times, children will be given opportunities to discuss, experiment and discover for themselves as they work on carefully structured challenges.

#### **Special Educational Needs**

When children have special educational needs, either because they find learning challenging or because they show a particular gift, we endeavour to help them in the best way possible. This might be through the use of small group teaching, bespoke tailored curriculum, through County support agencies, such as Learning Support or the Educational Psychology Service, or through the school medical service. In each case, we will work closely with parents to ensure that the best possible support is given. The school has a policy of inclusivity and equal opportunities and consequently seeks in every way possible to meet the individual needs of all pupils.

#### **English**

Language is an important part of life and, as such, speaking, reading and writing activities are linked right across the school curriculum. We use a mixture of reading schemes and encourage children to extend their interest in books to library books and reference material of all kinds.

#### **Mathematics**

In the field of maths, children are taught the basic functions of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication through the maths mastery approach. Problem solving and practical activities, such as

measuring and weighing, enable the children to practise and apply their mathematical skills.

#### **Science**

Practical experiments of many kinds enable the children to realise the importance of observation and the need to ask relevant questions in scientific discovery.

#### **Information Communication Technology**

ICT is a vital part of the modern world. The children benefit from using interactive whiteboards, class-based computers and laptops to support their learning. From reception onwards children are given opportunities to develop their ability to communicate through technology and learn how to programme simple programs.

#### **History and Geography**

Through carefully selected termly topics, children are made aware of how people in different ages and different lands have life experiences which vary from their own. We focus on British history to help children develop a sense of what it means to be British.

#### **Music**

All children enjoy class music lessons and visiting musicians enrich their musical experience. In addition, all children enjoy weekly singing assembly. There is also a school choir.

### Art and Design Technology

Children are encouraged to appreciate the work of others as well as to create for themselves. Children benefit from local artists visiting the school for workshops.

### Physical Education

All classes have weekly dance, gymnastic and games lessons. In addition, football clubs and our annual Sports Day, enable children to learn to be competitive in a positive way.

### Personal, Social and Health Education (including Sex Education)

Children are taught to respect and know their own bodies. They are encouraged to appreciate the cycle of life and death in the world around them, and questions are answered truthfully, according to their levels of understanding, and in an age-appropriate way.

### Religious Education

As a church school, each day has an act of collective worship with a different theme for every half term.

Once a week the local clergy and the Parish Children's Team lead our worship, and termly services are held in the Parish Church of St Giles. The Christian faith is seen as a living faith and therefore, much of our spiritual and moral teaching is integrated into the daily life of the school. RE is valued as a core subject and forms 10% of our curriculum.



**“Pupils behave well and feel safe. They are polite and courteous, playing and working together happily.”**

OFSTED





I like learning about nature in the bug garden

Ella, aged 6



I like wobbling on the trim trail  
Daisy



### Outside

We enjoy lots of space at St Giles'. We have a well maintained playing field, mini-beast area, trim trail and gazebo. We also have plenty of apparatus to play on in the playground.

Three of our classrooms have linked outside areas and learning outside goes on throughout the school day.

### Drama

In addition to our ever popular Christmas play, drama is used across the curriculum to aid and enhance the children's understanding and learning.





### Themed Week

We have themed weeks throughout the year, including "Feel Good" week and International Week.

### School Clubs and Outings

The school offers a range of free and fee paying clubs including French, choir, football and multi-skills. Clubs run either after school or at lunch time.

Each class will participate in trips throughout the year, usually linked to a topic.



I love it when we play a tennis match  
James, aged 7

we are excited about what we  
are going to learn every day

Daisy, aged 5



Science week was great

Learning how things worked

Katie

The activities  
are fun.

Louis, aged 6

Everyone helped me settle in

Charlie

the willow walk is lovely and clever

Vishanti & Ella

I like making sandcastles in the sandpit

Ben

Doing exciting things  
stopped me missing my  
mum and dad

Joseph

SCHOOL is exciting

Nathan

I feel happy because i like the teachers being happy

Amba

I like playing with all my friends  
from other classes

Freddie

The reception toys are good

Henry

## St Giles' C of E (A) Infant School

Dene Road

Ashted

Surrey KT21 1EA

Tel: 01372 272017

E-mail: [office@stgiles.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stgiles.surrey.sch.uk)

[www.stgiles.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stgiles.surrey.sch.uk)



Diocese of Guildford

