

St. James & St. John Church of England Primary School

St. James and St. John Church of England Primary School is a local primary school teaching children from age 3-11. It serves the local community by welcoming children from all faiths and children with no faith background. The school values and respects the diversity of its community.

The school has a separate Early Years Unit for the youngest children which consists of two classes, the nursery class, and the reception class. The children there are between 3.5 and 5.5 years old. The days in the Early Years Unit are more based on playful learning and teaching the children basic skills of social behaviour. The older children are based in the main school in classrooms from year 1 to year 6, where they engage in more school-like learning to prepare them for secondary school.

Volunteers help teachers by supervising activities and working with children on an individual, small-group or whole-class basis. Mostly, the volunteers are needed in the younger age groups.

Tasks at the primary school include:

- Early Years Unit classroom support (age 3-5)
- Assisting with early literacy and numeracy activities.
- Supporting learning through play and structured activities.
- Assisting children with toileting and hygiene needs.
- Providing emotional support and encouragement.
- Supervising children during free play, lunch, and outdoor activities.
- Lunchtime supervision in the main school
- Participation in outings and sports activities.
- Supporting school events like the Summer Fair or Cinema events.
- Helping with After-School Clubs.

What is expected from a volunteer:

- Patience & Calmness – Young children require time to learn, and a calm approach helps manage challenging behaviour.
- Kindness – A warm and caring personality makes children feel safe and supported.
- Enthusiasm – Engaging young learners requires passion and excitement.
- Creativity – Helping children learn through play means coming up with fun activities.
- Empathy & Understanding – Understanding children's emotions and needs is crucial.
- Team Player – Works well with teachers, parents, and other staff.