

St Mary's Primary School Contextual Information – '2024-25'

Date Updated: March 2025

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter
 Head of School: Mrs Jane Robinson
 Senior Teachers: Mrs Naomi Fry & Mrs Catrin pike
 Chair of Governors: Mr Alan Brundle
 URN:: 114553 DfE No: 8453326
 Local authority: East Sussex
 Type of Federation/Partnerships: Pioneer Federation of 6 schools
 Age range of pupils: 4-11

In March 2020, the School achieved a 'Good' Ofsted inspection.

The Pioneer Federation consists of 6 Primary schools and has an outward facing approach to school improvement. The Executive Head now splits his time equally between the 6 schools and the 6 schools work very closely & collaboratively in all aspects of school development- e.g. shared subject leadership, combined budget etc. East Hoathly Primary federated with Chiddingly Primary in November 2015. In September 2017 the federation went to a soft partnership with St Mary's CE Primary in Hartfield and Federated in September 2018. In September 2020, the federation went into a soft partnership with Park Mead Primary and they joined the Federation from September 2021. In September, Groombridge Primary & Nutley CE Primary went into partnership with Pioneer. The Pioneer Federation is in consultation with the Chichester Diocese, DOCET, DBE, ESCC, RSC and DfE regarding become a separate Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) in its own right by January 2025, catering for small school in Sussex. See SDP 24-25 section 2.4.

The Pioneer Federation has an outward facing approach to school improvement and are active members of local school Alliances. We have a very dedicated talented staff team who have impacted greatly and leaders have blossomed in their leadership roles.

In 2022- 23, there had been a Co-Head of School leadership model in place- previous HoS (pt) and Senior Teacher stepping up.

After a period of staff stability at SMV (2019- 2023), from September 2023 there were 60% teacher changes and a new Head of School and Senior Teacher. These changes were due to maternity leave and staff seeking to gain experience at other Pioneer Schools.

Mrs Jane Robinson was appointed as the full time Head of School at St Mary's from September 2023. She is a qualified SENCo and was previous an Assistant Principal in a large 'outstanding' Primary School in Sussex. Mrs Robinson ensured consistency across the school, embedded initiatives across 2023-24 & built our 'high exception ethos- be the best you can be'. From September 2024, we have an ECT in the LKS2 class (previous Pioneer teaching university student) and Mrs Bastin (previous SMV Head of School '19-23') will be returning to the UKS2 class. Our expectation is that 100% of teaching will be judged as outstanding by March 2025.

Teaching & Learning Improvement initiatives have impacted on standards in the school & federation. Over time, outcomes are inline or above NA with some exceptional attainment/progress records e.g. 2023 & 2024 KS2 Reading outcomes were some of the strongest in East Sussex (attainment and progress) and in the top 5% of schools nationally. In 2023-24- all teaching was good+ and 40% of teaching and learning was outstanding. In 2024/25- all teaching is good+ and 70% of teaching and learning is outstanding with the expectation that 100% of teaching will be outstanding by March 2025. In July 2024, all pupil outcomes were at or above NA, apart from Year 1 phonics (33% SEND) and Year 6 GDS Maths (see SDP 24/25 2.3).


As a staff team 2019-2024, we have collaboratively redesigned the Pioneer curriculum to ensure total clarity of intent/purpose, developing a broad/balance/ inclusive and inspiring curriculum for all. Our School Improvement partner (SC- Nov 2023) concluded- that 'The development of the federation curriculum is something that other schools would benefit from seeing.' East Hoathly had an Ofsted inspection in June 2024 & the 'Pioneer Curriculum' was judged as 'The ambitious curriculum is well-designed and logically sequenced. Pupils build on their prior learning well. As a result, their skills and knowledge become increasingly sophisticated.' <https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/easthoathly/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/East-Hoathly-CofE-Primary-School-Ofsted-Report-June-2024.pdf>

In March 2023, SMV had Local Authority monitoring visits for 'Health & Safety' (see report March 23). The reports concluded that '90% healthy and safety outcome, classified as outstanding.'

<p>Our LA School Improvement Partner (Shaun Collins) concluded in November 2023/March 2024, that <i>'St Mary the Virgin Primary is at present a good school with aspirations to be outstanding in all areas in the future. The school is part of the Ashdown Alliance and EIP. The new head of school has invested time in building relationships. The school has moved forward both culturally and in terms of its ethos and is stronger for this.'</i></p> <p>In October 2024, SMV had Local Authority monitoring visits for 'Safeguarding 2024'. The report concluded that 'Safeguarding is effective' and 'pupils are safeguarded very well at this school' & <i>'pupils were very positive attitudes about school, their confidence that school is a safe place and that adults in the school are always there to help them'</i>.</p> <p>We believe that St Mary's Primary School is at present a 'Good School' with outstanding aspects. St Mary's Primary School aspires to be an 'outstanding school' by September 2025.</p>			
Is there stability in leadership? In staffing? What is the profile of staffing? See above contextual information 2020-23			SLT: Exec Head, HOS (0.6/04), Senior Teachers x2, Inc Manager 6 teachers (Reception (job share), Year 1-2 (job share), Year 3-4 and Year 5-6) Subject Leaders across the federation
How does the school work across the EIP/Alliance/Federation and through NLE and other outreach roles?			Part of the Ashdown Alliance and EIP Subject leaders lead their subject across the Pioneer federation. HOS leads Adaptive Curriculum Senior Teacher x2 lead KS1 PSHCE/Thrive & Art Reception teacher is EY lead Year 6 teacher leads Writing ExHT part of small sch LA committee and undertakes NLE work for LA – supporting other sch in E.Sussex
Pupil Information:		Total on roll	80
		Reception (Maple)	11
		Year 1/2 (Cherry)	Year 1: 14 Year 2: 10
		Year 3/4 (Willow)	Year 3: 13 Year 4: 12
		Year 5/6 (Lilac)	Year 5: 14 Year 6: 8
		Gender	Boys: 47 (56%) Girls: 36 (44%)
		What % of pupils come from the village?	
		Hartfield	51 (62.2%)
		Edenbridge	20 (24.2%)

		East Grinstead						2 (2.4%)																																																																															
		Crowborough						4 (4.9%)																																																																															
		Tunbridge Wells						2 (2.4%)																																																																															
		Forest Row						3 (3.7%)																																																																															
Vulnerable Groups:		Make up of pupil population:																																																																																					
						SMV		National Average																																																																															
	Minority ethnic groups %					3 (3.7%)		NA 33.8%																																																																															
	FSM/PPG					16 (19.75% of the school population)		NA 23%																																																																															
	SEND					SEN - 25: 30% EHCP= 5 (6.17%)		NA- 12.6%																																																																															
		<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Vulnerable Groups <u>SEN</u>-25/81 (30% of school population) EHCP= 5 (6.1%)<table><thead><tr><th></th><th></th><th>class no</th><th>TOTAL</th><th>EHCP</th><th>K</th><th>B</th><th>G</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">SEN</td><td>24</td><td>12</td><td>R</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>12</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td></td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>%</td><td>26.4</td><td>15</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td></td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Nat</td><td>14%</td><td>15</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>EHCP</td><td>2.2</td><td>9</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4/90</td><td></td><td>14</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td></td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>NAT</td><td>3%</td><td>14</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td></td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>91</td><td></td><td>24</td><td>2</td><td>22</td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table></div>										class no	TOTAL	EHCP	K	B	G	SEN	24	12	R	2		2	2			12	1	4		4	4		%	26.4	15	2	4		4	2	2	Nat	14%	15	3	4		4	2	3	EHCP	2.2	9	4	4	2	2	5		4/90		14	5	1		1	1		NAT	3%	14	6	5		5	4	1			91		24	2	22	
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NAT	3%	14	6	5		5	4	1																																																																															
		91		24	2	22																																																																																	

		PPG –16 (19.75% of school pop)							
				TOTAL	B	G			
		PPG	13	R			1		
				1			1		1
		SEND X 3	27%	2			4	3	1
				3			3	2	
		Nat FSM	20.80%	4			0		
			Jan-21	5			2		1
				6			2	2	
						13			
Current Staffing:		Name						Post Held	
	Mr J Procter				Executive Headteacher				
	Mrs J Robinson				Head of School, DSL (Federation Adaptive Curriculum lead)				
	Mrs C Pike & Mrs N Fry				Senior Teachers, DDSL, Year 1&2 Teachers (Federation Art and Thrive leads)				
	Mrs B Bastin				Year 5 & 6 Teacher (Federation Writing lead)				
	Ms I Hawkins				Year 3 & 4 Teacher				
	Mrs R Boldero & Mrs ML Perry				Reception Class Teachers				
	Mrs M Neville				Teaching Assistant				
	Miss N Bews				Teaching Assistant				
	Mrs C Trengove				Teaching Assistant				
	Mrs A Thurman				INA/SENCo Assistant for the Federation				
	Mrs K Kryszkiewicz				Teaching Assistant/INA				
	Mrs K Hone				Teaching Assistant/INA				
	Mrs I Whyte				Teaching Assistant				
	Ms K Gladman				Teaching Assistant				

	Mrs K Carpenter					Teaching Assistant/INA							
	Mrs A Sharp					Forest School Lead							
	Mr A Huggett					IT Technician							
	Mrs S Leahy					Inclusion Manager							
	Mrs J Wicks/Mrs F Wylie					Pioneer Federation Bursars							
	Mrs K Powell					Caretaker							
	Mr A Elphick & Ms M Ambrose					CEO of 'Active Education Sussex' and PE coach							
	Mrs A Funnell					School Secretary (am)							
	Mrs K Miller					Admin Assistant (pm)							
School day Timetable	8:40-8:50	8:50-9:00	9:00-9:30	9:30-10:15		10:15 10.30	10:30-10:45	11:00 – 12:00	12:00 – 13:00	13.00- 13.15	13:15 – 15:15	15:15	
	School gates open	Registration	Spelling, Phonics or reading	Maths or Literacy		Assembly	Playtime	Maths or Literacy	Lunch time	Love Reading time	Afternoon learning	Home time	
Documented evidence of the work of those responsible for governance and their priorities, including any written scheme of delegation for an academy in a MAT		https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/about-the-governors/  Scheme of Delegation - Pionee											
A summary of any school self- evaluation or equivalent		https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/stmarys/ofsted-lead-inspector/											