

ST FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL



We walk, learn, love and smile together with Jesus"

Friday 17th July 2026

[Follow us on our Instagram page – sfd.sinf](#)

"Attend today and achieve tomorrow"

Our attendance target is 97% or higher.

Mixed Classes	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Acorns 94%	Aspen 92%	Ash 98%	Hazel 93%
Apple 97%	Cedar 92%	Laurel 98%	Holly 92%
Olive 100%	Elm 89%	Maple 89%	Oak 87%
Pine 90%	Sycamore 92%	Willow 87%	Silverbirch 95%

See our Attendance and Punctuality information here: <https://www.stfrancisdesalesinfants.org.uk/parents/attendance>

A reminder that doors open at 8.45am and all children should be in school at this time when their learning begins.

End of year Attendance Celebration

Children who achieved 100% attendance for the whole year were proudly awarded Gold Certificates, and those with 97% or more received Silver Certificates.

A big well done to all our attendance stars – we're so proud of their efforts and enthusiasm for coming to school each day with a smile. And of course, a huge thank you to you, our amazing families, for helping.

Year 2 Leavers

Our Year 2 Leavers' Service in church on Wednesday was a truly beautiful and memorable occasion. We are so proud of our Year 2 pupils and wish them all the very best as they move on to Year 3. It has been a joy to have you in our school and we are so proud of you all.

At the end of the day, we had fantastic UV Disco! The children had an amazing time dressed in their brightest neon colours, enjoying the glowing decorations and soaking up the fun atmosphere. There were smiles, laughter and plenty of excitement from start to finish as everyone danced with their friends. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success. It was a wonderful way to celebrate together and create some special end-of-year memories.

As another memorable chapter came to an end, we gathered to give the Year 2 children a heartfelt 'guard of honour' as they left the school for the final time. Lining the pathway were the teachers and staff who have supported, encouraged and cared for them throughout their journey at St Francis de Sales, alongside proud parents, carers and family members. With cheers, applause and plenty of smiles (and a few tears!), it was a truly special moment that reflected just how loved our children are. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and know they will continue to walk, learn, love and smile with Jesus as they begin their new adventures. We wish them every blessing and success for the future. See the photographs via our Instagram page – [sfds.inf](https://www.instagram.com/sfds.inf)

**Do not wish to be
anything but what you
are, and try to be that
perfectly.**

–St. Francis de Sales

Farewell and Thank You

Today we say a very special farewell to Mrs Reynolds, who is retiring after almost 20 years as one of our dedicated Lunchtime Supervisors. For almost two decades, she has been a friendly face in our dining hall and playground, caring for generations of children with kindness, patience and a warm smile. Her commitment and dedication have helped make lunchtimes a happy, safe and welcoming part of the school day, and she has played an important role in the lives of so many of our pupils and families. On behalf of everyone at St Francis de Sales, we would like to thank her for her many years of loyal service and wish her a long, happy and well-deserved retirement. We hope this next chapter brings her every happiness and many wonderful new adventures.

Could You Be Our New Parent Governor?

We are looking to appoint a Parent Governor to join our Governing Body and help shape the future of our school. Parent Governors play an important role in supporting and challenging school leaders to ensure that every child receives the very best education and opportunities. You don't need any special qualifications, just an interest in our school, a willingness to work as part of a team, and a commitment to helping our children thrive. If you would like to find out more, we will be emailing full details of the role and how to apply. We hope you will consider this rewarding opportunity to make a real difference to our school community.

Click for more information about the role of a school governor [Governors](#)

Summer Camp

Great News! Ultimate Kids will be hosting a camp at our school during the Summer. For more information on Ultimate Kids, please visit their website: [Welcome - Ultimate Kids Ltd](https://www.ultimatekidsltd.co.uk) All spaces are for children aged 5-11 and the camp runs from 08:45-15:00. There are a limited number of places available; please be quick to book your child's place, these will sell out: <https://bookings.ultimatekidsltd.co.uk/event/336051>

Parent/Carer Engagement Questionnaire- Working Together for Your Child

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our Parent/Carer Engagement Questionnaire.

We have been delighted with the number of responses so far and are incredibly grateful for the thoughtful ideas and suggestions you have shared. It has been wonderful to see so many parents and carers offering their skills, hobbies and interests to support our children.

[Parent/Carer Engagement Questionnaire- Working Together for Your Child – Fill in form](#)

School Places Available

We still have a number of Nursery and Reception places available for September 2026. Applications can be made via the school website, or you are welcome to pop into the main school office where staff will be happy to help.

Prayer and Liturgy

This week in our Prayer and Liturgy, the children reflected on our school mission: "We Walk, Learn, Love and Smile Together with Jesus." As we come to the end of the school year, they thought about the many ways they have lived out our mission each day. Together, we celebrated the times we have walked in Jesus' footsteps by making good choices, learned with curiosity and determination, shown love through kindness and forgiveness, and shared smiles that have brought joy to others.

Our Reflection

We reflected on how our mission helps us become the people God is calling us to be. Inspired by the words of our patron saint, St Francis de Sales, "Be who you are and be that well" the children recognised that every act of kindness, every effort in learning and every smile shared helps us grow closer to Jesus and builds our wonderful school family.

Supporting at Home

You can support your child by talking together about how they have lived our school mission this year. Celebrate moments when they have shown love, perseverance, respect or joy, and encourage them to continue following Jesus by using their gifts to help others throughout the summer holidays.

Our Prayer

Dear Jesus,
Thank You for walking beside us every day.
Help us to continue to walk, learn, love and smile with You wherever we go.
May we always use our gifts to serve others and be the very best people You created us to be.
Amen.

We encourage families to join us in prayer by following the link to our school prayers:

<https://www.stfrancisdesalesinfants.org.uk/re-and-catholic-life/our-prayers>

Our Parish

Please follow the link to our parish newsletter <https://www.stfrancisdesales-walton.co.uk/Newsletter>

Lunchtimes

Please note that we will be on **Week 1** of the Winter 1 menu when we come back in September. The menu will be available on our website: <https://www.stfrancisdesalesinfants.org.uk/parents/lunchtime>
Please be aware that we do not offer cakes and sweet desserts each day to the children. Fresh fruit is available daily.

Have a lovely summer and thank you for your continued support. We will see you all in September!

Mrs Jennings

Term Dates 2026/27	
Autumn 1 2026	Wednesday 2 nd September – Thursday 22 nd October
Autumn Half Term	Friday 23 rd October- Friday 30 th October
Autumn 2 2026	Monday 2 nd November – Friday 18 th December
Christmas Holiday	Monday 21 st December – Friday 1 st January

Spring 1 2027	Monday 4 th January – Friday 12 th February
Spring Half Term	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February
Spring 2 2027	Monday 22 nd February – Thursday 25 th March
Easter Holiday	Friday 26 th March – Friday 2 nd April

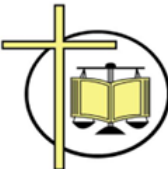
Summer 1 2027	Monday 5 th April – Friday 21 st May
Summer Half Term	Monday 24 th May – Friday 4 th June
Summer 2 2027	Monday 7 th June – Friday 16 th July
Summer Holiday	Monday 19 th July – Wednesday 1 st September

Inset Days (5) Tuesday 1 st September 2026 Friday 23 rd October 2026 Monday 19 th July 2027 Tuesday 20 th July 2027 Wednesday 21 st July 2027
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Bank Holidays Good Friday – 26 th March 2027 Easter Monday – 29 th March 2027 May Day - Monday 3 rd May 2027

Attendance Reminders for Parents/Carers

'We walk, love, learn and smile together with Jesus every day'



Term Time Holidays

All term time holidays **will** incur a fine. Holidays **must** be taken outside of term-time.



Regular Absence from school

If your child's absence falls below 95%, you will be invited to a meeting with the Headteacher to discuss what support we can offer to help improve your child's attendance.



Absence

It is a parent/carer's responsibility to inform school if your child will be absent. Please do this before 9am via telephone or our online form. Please call our attendance officer, Mrs Lavelle on 0151 525 8489.



Too many unauthorised absences could result in a fine.



There will be occasions when your child's absence will be **unauthorised**; when this occurs, previous patterns of absence are considered and meetings held with parents to discuss the decision. Please also note that episodes of sickness and diarrhoea will not be authorised.



Medical Appointments

Please endeavor to make all medical appointments outside of the school day. If this is not possible, please bring your child to school before and after the appointment.



Aiming for 97% and above!

We aim for 97% or above attendance to ensure your child has the best possible opportunity to reach their full potential.

The school day begins at 8:45am and learning begins promptly at this time.



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Our Attendance Expectations

Have you read our attendance expectations? Please click the link below to our website to view [St Francis de Sales Catholic Infant And Nursery School - Home](#)



PLEASE DON'T TAKE HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME



Taking your child out of school during term time could harm their education.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Parents

Even where a School Crossing Patrol is provided, parents remain responsible for making sure their children get to school safely. Just as they do when a zebra crossing or pedestrian crossing is provided. When children arrive at the crossing point:



The Patrol will tell them to wait at the pavement and use the **STOP** sign as a barrier to prevent them from edging forward until they are called.



The Patrol will then use the **STOP** sign to instruct traffic to stop. The Patrol may need to wait for a safe gap in the traffic. **DO NOT FOLLOW THE PATROL INTO THE ROAD.**



When the traffic has stopped, the Patrol will call you to cross over. Please walk in front of the Patrol so they can see you.



The Patrol will remain in the centre of the road until all the children and adults have crossed the road safely.

**PLEASE
SLOW DOWN
WHEN
APPROACHING
A PATROL**

A child struck at 20mph
is more likely to survive
but at 40mph they will
almost certainly die.

Drivers

When approaching a school you should reduce your speed and be prepared to stop, also be patient and considerate. School Crossing Patrols need to see and be seen. It can be difficult to see children on the pavement, especially if cars park right next to the crossing location. Children may run into the road without thinking about the traffic.

If you are a driver, remember:

- By law you **MUST** stop when signalled to do so by a Patrol displaying a **STOP** sign
- Do not move forward and remain patient
- Do not park at the School Crossing Patrol location or close to where a Patrol is working
- Look out for signs, or flashing amber lights, which warn of a School Crossing Patrol ahead
- Park with courtesy and consideration to others, observing all regulations in accordance with the Highway Code and in such a way that our children are able to enter and leave the school safely



It is an offence under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 if you do not stop when signalled to do so by a School Crossing Patrol. If you do not stop the possible penalties include:

- A fine of up to £1000
- 3 penalty points
- Disqualification