



St. Mary's RC Primary School



School Brochure 2017 – 2018



INFORMATION ABOUT THE GOVERNING BODY

Under the Standards and Framework Act revised in 2004

GOVERNOR	STATUS	APPOINTED BY
Mr K.Nicol	Chair	Trustees of the Diocese
Mrs E.Thompson	Vice Chair	Co -opted
Mr D.Smith	Foundation	Trustees of the Diocese
Mrs M.McDonagh	Foundation	Trustees of the Diocese
Mrs J.Matthews	Foundation	Trustees of the Diocese
Rev. K.Atkinson	Foundation	Trustees of the Diocese
Mr M.Falcus	Foundation	Trustees of the Diocese
Miss K.Mcdonaugh	Parent	Parents
To be appointed	Parent	Parents
Cllr F.Cunningham	Local Authority	L.A
Mr C.Mackley	Staff Governor	Staff

Mrs. M Armstrong is our School Advisory Partner.

Chairman
Mr K.Nicol
C/o St. Mary's RC Primary School
Ayr Drive
Jarrow
South Tyneside
NE32 4AW
tel. no. 0191 4898336



Work, play, pray - together



Welcome!

May all who come to visit here
 Find open hearts and ready cheer,
 And find the face of Christ as well
 In every one who here does dwell;
 And may we all be doubly blessed
 To see his face in every guest.

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL.

This Prospectus has been put together by the children, staff, governors and parents of the school. We hope it helps you gain an understanding of how our school is organised, and to appreciate the exciting opportunities on offer to children in our care. All schools have their own distinctive 'feel' which makes each one unique. We believe that the 'special feel' at St Mary's is to do with our caring, friendly atmosphere. St Mary's is a 'family' where children are nurtured, encouraged, supported and challenged to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment and both children and their families are included and respected. We believe that all children can achieve and we strive to provide the highest quality education and care to enable this to happen. We support all children to make sure they reach their full potential during their time with us. We deliver a Curriculum that is relevant to all children and allows for the highest levels of enjoyment and engagement.

At St Mary's we see ourselves as an extended family. This is underpinned by our pastoral system where children from all year groups mix to become part of a family group. We care for each other and work as a team learning about PSHE topics, world news and British Values. We actively help and support parents and families with concerns and issues as well as celebrate achievements with them. We have an open door policy and staff members are always available to parents, carers, family members and pupils.

I am extremely proud to lead a team that is committed to achieving high standards and providing the very best opportunities for the children in our care. Staff, supported by governors, work hard to deliver a rich and challenging curriculum; to prepare children for future education; and to help them acquire the skills and enthusiasm needed to pursue learning for the rest of their lives. The best way to find out about our school is to come and visit, to see us in action and meet staff and children. A telephone call to the school office on 0191 4898336 is all that is needed to arrange this. We look forward to welcoming you to our school, and to a happy and successful partnership with all our new children and families.

Mrs Marie Graham

Mr Kevin Nicol

Head Teacher

Chair of Governors

Mission Statement



Work, play, pray - together!

This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities. (Archbishop Oscar Romero)

Golden Rules

Our most important Golden Rule is:-

"Do to others what you would have them do to you." - Matthew 7:12

We are kind and helpful - we don't hurt anybody's feelings

We are gentle - We don't hurt others

We listen - We don't interrupt

We work hard - We don't waste our own or others' time.

We are honest - We don't cover up the truth.

We look after property - We don't waste or damage things.

These Golden Rules are the moral values which underpin all the choices and decisions made by all in school.

Getting In Touch

Head Teacher: Mrs M. Graham B.Ed (Hons.) NPQH
St. Mary's R.C Primary School
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NE32 4AW

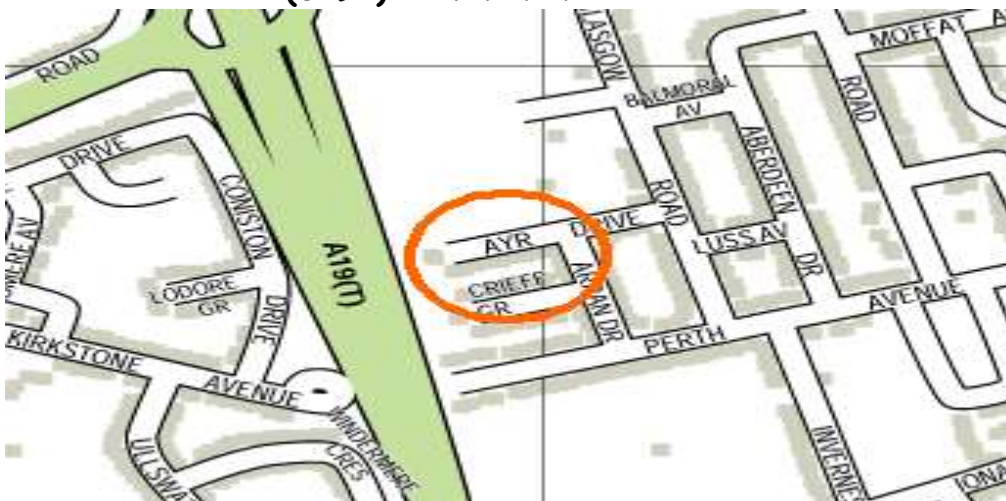
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Corporate Director Children, Adults and Health:
Mr John Pearce
South Tyneside Council
Town Hall and Civic Offices
Westoe Road
South Shields
NE33 2RL

Telephone: (0191) 4271717



For more information please look at our website:-

www.stmarysjarrow.co.uk

About our school

The school buildings are approximately 55 years old and they are very spacious. Nursery is in a large separate building across a yard to the school. Our school building is across two floors. Refurbishment of certain areas has recently been undertaken which is enhancing our existing facilities. We benefit from a large hall, a library, an ICT suite and a children's cooking area. We have extensive grounds with hard surface areas, a spacious playing field, adventure playground areas, table tennis tables, an allotment and a woodland area.



Organisation:

Nursery - EYFS 1

We offer two and three year old places in nursery. We also offer up to 30 hours free places. Three year old children are entitled to spend up to five terms in the Nursery, accessing morning or afternoon sessions
 Mornings: 8.45- 11.45am,
 Afternoons: 12.45 -3.45pm from the start of the term after their third birthday.
 Nursery children who access 30hours receive a paid school lunch.

Children spend seven years at primary school.

EYFS 2

4 - 5 years Reception

Key Stage One

5 - 6 years Y1

6 - 7 years Y2

Key Stage 2

7 - 8 years Y3

8 - 9 years Y4

9 - 10 years Y5

10 - 11 years Y6

Staff
Teaching Staff.

Mrs Graham	Head teacher
Mrs Tumelty	Deputy Head teacher
Mrs Riley	Nursery Teacher EYFS Lead
Mrs Walker / Mrs Reid	Reception Class Teachers
Mrs Garrido	Year 1
Mrs Colley / Miss O'Reilly	Year 2 Mrs Colley KS1 Phase lead.
Miss Waite	Year 3
	Year 4
Mrs Smith	Year 5
Mr Mackley	Year 6 KS2 Phase Lead
Mrs Reid	Science Teacher (part-time)
Mr Morris	PE Specialist coach

Support Staff.

Miss Wood HLTA Pastoral Supprt
Miss Charles HLTA Intervention Support
Mrs J.White HLTA
Mrs D.Johnston HLTA
Miss J. Lamb HLTA
Miss Harrison
Mrs S. Parker
Mrs. L.Mcleod
Mrs. S Smith Office Manager
Mrs Chaganis Office Assistant
Mr. J Tiffin Site Supervisor

Lunch Time Supervisory Assistants	
To be appointed	Supervisory Assistant
To be appointed	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs. P Smith	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs. P.McCann	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs. M Riddle	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs. C Armstrong	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs. J Blacklock	School Cook

Parents in Partnership

We welcome parents and carers into St Mary's Primary School believing we are partners in the education of your children. There are many opportunities for parents to become involved in the life of the school and to gain a greater understanding of its work. Parents' support and expertise can be used in many ways and is greatly valued. DBS checks are carried out on all adults working in school including regular volunteers. If you are able to help, please talk to your child's teacher.



Communication with Parents and Carers.

We communicate with parents and carers in various ways, for example through our weekly newsletters, questionnaires, workshops and informal social events. Parents and carers are regularly invited to assemblies and to Parents' Evenings each term. Every year parents / Carers and others are invited to attend our Sports Day as well as children's performances and other events. Staff are always happy to meet with parents and carers to talk through any concerns. The school has a Home School Agreement to support the partnership between home and school, and foster shared dialogue. Parents and others are involved in policy development through consultation and working parties. The School's website has a wealth of information including our weekly newsletters, class pages, copies of key policies and curriculum information.

Become a Governor

The Governing Body of the school is made up of people from a variety of backgrounds. The school governors are a group of individuals, who are elected, nominated or co-opted and are representative of parents and staff, the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and the Local Authority. School Governors work with the Headteacher and are responsible for setting the strategic direction of the school. Meetings are held at least once each term and committees meet in addition to meetings of the full Governing Body. If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact Mrs Marie Graham, Headteacher to find out about any vacancies and ask for a Governor's Information Pack.

Curriculum Aims

The school curriculum is designed to create and promote the intellectual, physical, personal and social cultural development of the individual pupil. This includes not only the formal subject based curriculum, but also the '*Hidden Curriculum*' which deals with building relationships, developing positive attitudes and fostering Christian values which make our school ethos and give our school its distinctive nature. The teaching and learning styles used are varied and appropriate to particular areas of the curriculum and ages and abilities of the child.



- We aim to create a happy and relaxed learning environment where everyone is encouraged to come to school and give of their best.
- We aim to develop lively and enquiring minds and the ability to question and reason.
- We aim to provide a balanced curriculum suited to the individual needs of the pupil.
- We aim to provide an exciting curriculum with opportunities for co-operation and which prepares our children for life in the 21st century.
- We aim to educate the whole child

In this school, through the curriculum, we aim to foster in children the development of the number of qualities we believe will enhance their lives and help to make them responsible citizens with an awareness of the needs of others and a responsible attitude towards society.

The National Curriculum is followed by pupils from Year 1 to Year 6. (Key Stage 1 and 2) The content is determined by the Department of Education and is contained in National Curriculum Council documents. The Nursery and Reception Class is known as the 'Foundation Stage'. They follow specific Foundation Stage guidelines stipulated by the DfE.

The National Curriculum, laid down by Government, is currently made up of 11 subjects. The core subjects are English, Mathematics, Science, ICT and RE. The other Foundation subjects are Design Technology, Geography, History, Art & Design, Music and PE. In addition, every school must provide a daily act of collective worship. Modern Foreign Languages are also taught.



Our curriculum is planned in themes, with topics chosen to capture the interests and imaginations of our children. Themes include, The Great Fire of London, Our School and the Local Area, This is Britain, Romans, Castles, Oceans and Seas, Mountains and Rivers, Rainforests as well as many more exciting topics. Each theme is introduced through a Curriculum Launch Day which is designed to engage and motivate children in their learning.. Skills-based learning is developed by linking subjects such as history, geography, art, design technology and music to the topic being studying. This allows children to make purposeful links in their learning. We also use every opportunity to make further links through reading, writing, maths, science and computing where relevant. PE, RE and PSHE are often taught as discreet subjects to allow coverage of the main objectives and age appropriate skill development.

The methods we use in this school are based on the understanding that all children are individuals who have different abilities and different rates and ways of learning as well as the different home experiences before they come to school. Arrangements are made to ensure the needs of all children are met. We believe that it is essential to provide children with first hand experiences that are multi-sensory, this often means that pupils use the school grounds or immediate locality, visits to local museums, theatres etc. are used to give the children experiences that are impossible to duplicate in the classroom.

Educational Visits.

School trips and visits are an integral part of the education of children at St Mary's Primary. We value the opportunities such visits offer our pupils and the commitment of staff and adults undertaking them. Trips include class visits aimed at bringing learning alive and providing first-hand experience; extra-curricular outings such as activities with the school choir or sporting events; and attending or taking part in performances or competitions. Children in Years 5 and 6 currently have the opportunity to take part in residential visits.



Forest School.

Forest School is a Scandinavian initiative designed to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through an innovative, long term, educational approach to outdoor play and learning in a woodland environment. As a school we are very fortunate in having our own woodland area and members of staff are Forest School trained. Forest School is currently offered to our Foundation Stage children, Year 1 and also as an after-school club for KS2 pupils. Sessions are designed around the needs of the group to ensure that they are learner-led. Sessions are designed around a theme, themes are sometimes subtle such as evolving or exploring the site or more obvious such as butterflies, spies, fairies or nature investigators. Many areas of the National Curriculum are intrinsically covered, in the Forest Schools experience without the programmes needing to be curriculum led. Teamwork skills are developed through games and activities.



Individual skills and self-esteem are heightened throughout activities such as hide and seek, shelter building, tool skills, lighting fires or environmental art, the list is endless. Each activity develops intra and inter-personal skills as well as practical and intellectual skills.

Assessment

The Reception children are assessed using the Foundation Stage Profile and a baseline assessment.

The children in Year 2 and Year 6 will be tested using Standardised tests.

Children in Year 1 will be assessed using a Statutory Phonic Screening Test.

Children in Key Stage 1 and 2 will be assessed in accordance with our school Assessment for Learning Policy.

This information is used to give an overview of standards and as a tool for planning and target setting.

There will be an opportunity for parents to see their child's work and discuss progress and attitude at Open Evenings and Curriculum evenings held throughout the year.

In addition Parental Feedback sheets are sent home each term following formal Assessment Weeks outline children's progress and identifying targets to work on at home to further develop your child.

The Core Curriculum Subjects.

English

In studying English, pupils develop skills in speaking and listening, and reading and writing. It enables them to express themselves creatively and imaginatively, and to communicate with others effectively. The effectiveness of literacy teaching determines the success of the whole curriculum. Language is cross-curricular- it is an essential element of learning in all areas of the curriculum. We follow the National Curriculum and believe the development of literacy skills is best ensured by providing a rich and varied linguistic environment. Talking is fundamental to a pupil's learning. Pupils are encouraged and helped to talk clearly and confidently and with expression in order to communicate ideas and feelings. Similarly, and just as importantly, is the need to listen to others and respond appropriately. All children are provided with opportunities in all areas of the curriculum to develop skills in speaking and listening. At St Mary's our aim is not only to teach children the skills to read with confidence, fluency and understanding, but also to foster a genuine desire to read for pleasure and purpose. We want our pupils to become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry and drama as well as non-fiction and media texts. All children are encouraged to take books home to practise and reinforce the skills taught in school. Guidance is provided on how parents can best support their children's learning in this area. Pupils are helped to develop the ability to express their thoughts and ideas and communication skills through the written word. We believe it is important that children see their writing as having purpose and that they regard themselves as authors of their work. Opportunities are provided for children to develop the necessary writing skills required for different purposes and audiences. The link between reading and writing is strongly emphasised.

Mathematics

Maths at St Mary's Primary is fascinating and fun! Right from the start daily maths lessons encourage the children to reason about number, to solve problems and have efficient strategies for solving calculations. We use a wide range of practical resources to scaffold children's thinking and solidify understanding in all year groups. Where it is relevant, connections are made between maths and topics, giving mathematical understanding a context in the real world and the children have lots of opportunities to use and apply their skills across the curriculum.

Science

In Science children are involved in planning practical investigations and designing experiments which build upon their own interests and experiences. They learn how to make predictions, change variables and communicate results.

Religious Education

R.E. is taught in accordance with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle's agreed syllabus. This is the 'Come & See' Scheme. As a community we celebrate Mass and the children prepare class liturgies and religious-based assemblies. We ensure that children have an awareness and appreciation of other world religions. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. However as parents have made a conscious decision to

send their child to a Roman Catholic school the Governors do not see parents wishing to take up this option.

The Foundation Stage

The Nursery and Reception classes are referred to as the Foundation Stage of learning. This is an important stage, as it is during this time that attitudes to learning are formed and social skills developed which lay the foundations for future education.

Young children learn most effectively through a balance of structured and child initiated play. Our Foundation Stage staff work together as a team and plan for children's learning in seven areas to ensure that all areas of development are covered within an interesting, stimulating and supportive framework. They also ensure that children progressively develop their skills and knowledge throughout this phase of their school life. The children are taught directly and also have a choice of planned activities so that they are able to develop independent learning habits.

The seven areas of learning and development are:

Prime Areas

- Communication, Language
- Physical Development.
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

School Council

We have an active School Council with 2 elected members from Y3, Y4 and Y5 and 4 elected members from Y6. They meet regularly to make decisions related to the specific needs voiced by the class members.



Inclusion and Equality.

At St Mary's Primary School we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the school, irrespective of race, gender, disability, faith or religion or socioeconomic background. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in school life. The school recognises it has to make special efforts to ensure that all groups prosper including:

- Boys and girls,
- All minority ethnic groups
- Pupils or families with different religions or beliefs
- Pupils and others with special educational needs
- Pupils and others with a range of disabilities
- Children who are looked after and their carers
- Children or staff who are gay or lesbian
- Pupils or staff undergoing gender reassignment.

The achievement of pupils is monitored by race, gender and disability and we use this data to support pupils, raise standards and ensure inclusive teaching. We tackle discrimination by the positive promotion of equality, challenging bullying and stereotypes and creating an environment which champions respect for all. As a school we believe that diversity is a strength, which should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit us. We implement accessibility plans, which are aimed at:

- Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum.
- Improving the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided.
- Improving the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils and their families.

Safeguarding.

St Mary's Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. Staff work hard to maintain an environment where children feel safe and secure. The curriculum is designed to ensure opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse including whilst accessing the internet. Children know that they can approach any of the adults in school if they are worried and that they will receive a consistent supportive response. In recognising our responsibilities for Safeguarding and Child Protection, as a school we:

- Have clear staff recruitment and selection procedures, ensuring that all staff (including volunteers) who have unsupervised access to children, have been appropriately checked for their suitability through the DBS procedure.
- Aim to raise awareness of child protection issues and equip children with the skills needed to keep them safe.

- Develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse.
- Support children
- Establish a safe and nurturing environment free from discrimination or bullying where children can learn and develop happily.

If you would like to know more about our policy or procedures for Safeguarding, please speak to our school office staff.

School Organisation

The doors into school will open at 8.45am each morning and close with the 8.58am bell. Any children coming into school after this time will need to enter school via the main office.

	Morning	Afternoon
Nursery	8.45 - 11.45	12.45 - 3.45
Infants	8.45 - 12.00	1.30 - 3.30
Juniors	8.45 - 12.00	1.00 - 3.30
Play Times	10.25 - 10.40	2.20 - 2.30

Health

The school works closely with the health and welfare agencies, and the school nurse visits on a regular basis. If there are any problems, parents will be contacted.

For minor accidents in school we administer first aid, but if a child is ill, or has a serious accident at school, professional assistance will be sought and parents contacted. It is essential that parents provide current home, work and relative's phone numbers as **an emergency contact** in case any matter concerning a child's health or welfare arises during school hours. If parents have made arrangements for any person other than themselves to collect children from school, then the school should be informed.

Please be assured that we will always act with the best interests of your child.

Please let us know if your child has any medical problems such as epilepsy, diabetes, allergies or asthma. Inhalers are kept in the class, where they are only accessible by the children to whom they belong. There may be times when children attending school need to take medication. Any such medicines needed by a child during the school day should be brought to school in the smallest practicable amount by the parent/carer, not the pupil and be delivered personally to the School Office.

These medicines must be in the original bottle/packaging in which prescribed, clearly labelled with the:

- Pupil's name
- Contents

- Dosage
- Date

Parents will be asked to complete a written request for the school to administer medication. Medicines in school are kept in a locked cupboard or in a refrigerator, away from the pupils. A record is kept of all medicines administered. Other medicines **must not** be brought to school.

Illness

Please telephone the school office, on the first day, to inform us of the circumstances indicating how long the absence may be. A written explanatory note to the class teacher may be necessary when your child returns to school.

Dental / Medical Appointments

Please send notification in a letter in advance of the absence.

Children attending a medical appointment must be collected from the reception area by a named adult.

School Meals

Lunch is at 12.00 - 1.00 for KS2 and until 1.30 for Reception and KS1, the children are supervised by the Supervisory Assistants. School meals are provided on the premises. Several choices are available each day. The pupils have dinner with their Pastoral Care groups.

Rec and KS1 children receive a dinner free of charge. We ask that the correct dinner money for KS2 be put in the dinner packet provided, to be paid on a Monday morning. Cheques payable to STMBC.

Anyone qualifying for free school meals and school milk needs to inform the school office at their earliest convenience.

Care of Property

Please ensure that all items of clothing and any personal possessions are **clearly named**, as there is a much better chance of finding labelled belongings. Any mislaid articles whose owner cannot be identified, are put in the lost property box, which is situated in the infant cloakroom. The school does not accept responsibility for any loss, or damage to property. Children should not bring any valuables, toys, money or mobile phones to school as such items often are mislaid by young children.

Uniform

The children are expected to wear a blue sweatshirt with the school badge, a blue polo shirt, grey school trousers or skirt. The children must wear black school shoes. *Trainers are not allowed to be worn.*

In the summer girls may wear a light blue gingham dress and boys may wear grey school shorts.

Children are expected to wear a plain white T-shirt and blue or black shorts for P.E. Uniform can be ordered from school, and your child's name can be embroidered on their uniform items.

Children are NOT allowed to wear ANY jewellery.

Parking and Collecting Children

As with many schools, parking is a problem. There are parking facilities in some areas of Ayr Drive and also Aaran Drive. As this is a residential area please be sensitive to the needs of the residents and DO NOT park across resident's drives.

The **safety** of the children is important in this congested area.

Children must be collected at 3.30p.m. prompt, as the school cannot be responsible for children left unattended in the yard.

Attendance

Leave of Absence from School:

Time away from school may adversely affect a pupil's performance and for this reason we request that children are not taken away during term time unless it is an exceptional circumstance. It is a legal requirement that permission be obtained from the head teacher in advance, and authorisation is at the discretion of the Head teacher.

Punctuality:

The school day begins from 8.45 and all children must be in school by 8.58 am. Punctuality is vital to the success of the school day. If your child is persistently late they miss the start of the lesson and cause unnecessary disruptions for the rest of the class.

Latecomers

must be brought in through the main entrance. Once registration / lessons have started children coming in late must be brought in via the main entrance.

School holidays and term dates 2017/2018

*In-Service Days: to be confirmed		
Term	Open morning of	Close afternoon of
Autumn Term	Mon 04 Sep 2017	Fri 20 Oct 2017
	Mon 30 Oct 2017	Fri 22 Dec 2017
Spring Term	Mon 08 Jan 2018	Fri 09 Feb 2018
	Mon 19 Feb 2018	Thu 29 Mar 2018
Summer Term	Mon 16 Apr 2018	Fri 25 May 2018
	Mon 04 Jun 2018	Fri 20 Jul 2018

School closed Bank Holiday Monday 7th May 2018



St. Mary's RC Primary
A People Place

*If this is not a place where tears are understood,
Where do I go to cry?*

*If this is not a place where my spirits can take
wing,
Where do I go to fly?*

*If this is not a place where my questions can be
asked,
Where do I go to seek?*

*If this is not a place where my feelings can be
heard,
Where do I go to speak?*

*If this is not a place where you'll accept me as I
am,
Where can I go to be?*

*If this is not a place where I can try to learn and
grow,
Where can I be just me?*

William J Crockett

