



Our Vision:

Christ Church School, in partnership with parents and carers, will provide the highest possible academic and personal standards for all our pupils through a Christian-centred education. Excellence will be pursued in every aspect of school life.

- All children will be inspired to develop high and achievable expectations of themselves.
- They will be encouraged to demonstrate growing independence and self-discipline.
- They will be motivated to seize the broad range of opportunities for learning that are on offer across the curriculum.
- They will be helped to recognise and exploit their strengths, and be given every support in those areas of the curriculum that they find more challenging.
- New technologies will be exploited wherever applicable to add stimulus and excitement to the learning experience. Information and communications technology will be fully integrated into all that we do.
- The school will provide a wealth of diverse learning opportunities, especially in the expressive arts where every child will be offered an opportunity to learn a musical instrument. There will be a school choir and a school orchestra. All pupils will be encouraged to take active roles in art and drama.
- The school will offer regular educational learning trips and additional extra-curricular activities to reinforce the formal learning process in interesting and engaging ways.
- Sport and physical education will play key roles in the curriculum, to help establish physical activity as a natural element in every pupil's day-to-day life. Participation in team games will be encouraged.
- The extensive grounds and our rural setting will be fully utilised to promote learning.
- The school will be equipped and resourced to the highest possible standards. Working with families and the Church community, we will actively participate in fund-raising efforts to help meet this goal.
- There will be an emphasis on constant improvement at every level, and all involved at the school, from teachers to governors, will be expected to commit to their own lifelong learning in order to make the maximum contribution to school life.
- Team working will be key to the management of the school, and a number of teams including teachers and teaching assistants, governors, administrators, meal-time supervisors, local authority representatives, parents and carers will work harmoniously and supportively to improve school performance.

Christ Church School will be an exhilarating place to learn. The stimulating atmosphere will be felt by all at the school, whether teaching or learning. The exciting educational experience to look forward to on each and every day of the school year will provide a sound foundation for our children to embrace a lifetime of learning with enthusiasm.



Our Values:

Christian values form the foundation of all we do at Christ Church School, and permeate all the school's activities and practices. The school subscribes to the (Trinitarian) Christian belief in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus, when asked what was the greatest commandment, replied “ ‘The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength’. The second most important commandment is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself’. There is no commandment more important than these two.” (Mark 12:29-31, GNB)

- Christianity is taught with commitment and enthusiasm through the formal curriculum, and through a daily act of worship attended by the school community.
- Every child matters, whatever their strengths and weaknesses and whatever their race, colour or creed. They will each be inspired and helped to give of their best, and every child's contribution will be acknowledged.
- We encourage mutual respect between all and the desire to live out all that it means to serve God as a truly Christian community. This will include respecting the rights and beliefs of those who see the world from other perspectives.
- Our respect for each other will extend to the world around us, and care for the environment will be reflected through the curriculum and also through the school's practices and customs, including travel, waste disposal and energy consumption.
- We will guide our children towards a healthy lifestyle, ensuring the availability of appealing but nutritious school meals and regular exercise.
- Discipline will be exercised firmly but calmly, ensuring that those who are guilty of bad behaviour are properly cautioned, and motivated to develop self-discipline and respect for others.

Christ Church is a friendly and inclusive school providing an orderly, calm, and harmonious environment in which each child can feel part of the Christ Church family. It will be a secure place to learn, with our single-form intake providing a family atmosphere in which our children will be able to proceed with self-confidence as they take further steps into the wider world.



About Christ Church:

Christ Church is a Voluntary Aided Church of England School for boys and girls aged 5-11 years. It has been in existence for over 160 years, with the School, Church and Vicarage having been constructed on St Albans Road, Barnet in 1844.

The school moved to its present site in Byng Road in 1957 and stands in extensive grounds in a glorious rural setting surrounded by playing fields. Following several extensions, the school boasts seven classrooms, a hall, large dining area, dedicated ICT and music suites, a reading and library area, and quiet rooms for studying.

In 2000 Christ Church Nursery was opened adjacent to the school. The nursery takes children for either morning or afternoon sessions each day. The Nursery is not described in this prospectus. More information can be obtained by contacting the school office.

Church Links:

As a Church of England School, there are of, course, strong links with the Church. The purpose of the school is to provide the best possible education for each child, within the context of a caring Christian community. Such links are accentuated in a number of ways:

- Children are encouraged to see the world from a Christian perspective, with an emphasis on caring, tolerance, humility and corporate worship.
- Each child is known by all staff and so benefits from the caring, family atmosphere and pastoral care of the school.
- The school attends Christ Church, St Albans Road, for the main Christian festivals and parents are always invited to be present. The Clergy of Christ Church leads the worship for the special services in Church and also have a regular presence in the school, along with the Children's Pastor.
- All days include an assembly for collective prayer and worship based on the Church calendar and festivals being celebrated. Each Friday morning in school, parents, family and friends are welcomed to the Merit Assembly where we recognise and congratulate the children's achievements both in and out of school. Children become members of one of the four Houses in the school named after past Headteachers; Challacombe, Stanley, Watson and Noble and earn house points. Infants are able to earn certificates for trying hard or making good progress.
- Aspects of the Christian faith and bible stories are presented to all age groups in Religious Education as appropriate to the age of the children.
- Although we are a Church of England School, we enjoy a diversity of pupils from other faiths and, of course, children moving to other schools will meet children of other faiths. Our children are therefore encouraged to recognise the beliefs and customs of different cultures and religions as they learn about the world around them.



With a little help from our Friends...

Our school fosters a real community spirit, and this is perfectly demonstrated by our relationship with The Friends of Christ Church School. Anyone with a child at the school is considered a Friend and is entitled to attend regular committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

The Friends' Aims:

- To help new parents and their children with the transition from nursery to school.
- To help families to meet, socialise and form friendships.
- To raise funds to support the needs and aspirations of the school in order to enrich our children's education.

What The Friends Do:

- Organise social events throughout the year, including the annual Summer Fair, Fireworks Display and Christmas Fair.
- Organise additional events such as Quiz Nights, Jazz Barbeques, Ladies Indulgence Evenings and Barn Dances.
- Providing refreshments at key school events such as major church services and sports days.

Existing Achievements:

The Friends make a huge contribution to the school, funding many items that are of direct use to all the children. Recent examples of funding by the friends are:

- The computers in the ICT Room.
- The playground container for storing sports equipment.
- The junior and infant playground climbing equipment.
- The playground 'friendship benches'.
- Playground games and activities.
- Books for the 'Cool Book Club'.
- Digital cameras for every class.
- Interactive white boards

The Friends also made a £1,500 donation to The Jack Brown Cancer Appeal

We Need You!

The Friends are always on the lookout for help, and new committee members and fresh ideas are always welcome. Whether it is helping to arrange events, baking cakes, erecting a gazebo, or attending events, every little helps – and it all serves to benefit the school.



The Curriculum and Teaching:

Our planning for teaching and learning fully incorporates the National Curriculum for years 1-6, and the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum for Nursery & Reception. The National Curriculum comprises a selection of knowledge, skills and attitudes which state schools are legally bound to teach.

- The school is a 1-form entry school. As such, it has one class for each age group, and each class is therefore of mixed ability. However, teachers differentiate between the needs and abilities of individual children in both their planning and their teaching. Children are often set into ability groups within the class: these groupings will be different depending on the subject being taught. Occasionally, small groups will be taught away from the main class, either by a different teacher or a teaching assistant, as appropriate.
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) may need one-to-one specialist attention from either a dedicated teaching assistant or a visiting specialist, depending on their individual education plan. The school's SEN Coordinator (SENCO) routinely assesses all infant children (and new starters in the Juniors) to ensure that any special educational needs are identified as early as possible and appropriate help given. All teachers and parents can request help from the SENCO if there is any doubt as to a child's needs. The Special Educational Needs Policy may be viewed in the School Office.
- A register is kept of some of the most able children in each class. Closely monitoring the progress of these children helps to ensure that all children are challenged to achieve their full potential. Children are placed on this register at the discretion of the class teacher, taking account of factors such as prior attainment, test results, responses to questions raised in class, etc, and ability in specialist areas (music, art etc). The school's MAGAT (More Able Gifted And Talented) coordinator will work with the class teachers ensuring that these children have their progress monitored at least half-termly.
- Many parents come into school regularly to assist with reading, ICT and other curriculum areas. They will work with individual children or small groups, as the class teacher directs.
- Instrumental music lessons are available through school for all Junior children. These are taught as individual or small group lessons, at the discretion of the visiting music teacher concerned. Children are normally invited to choose an instrument in the summer term of Y2, but older children may apply through the school office.
- PE is taught within classes, but Juniors may be split into single-sex groups for team games, and may be taught with two classes together.
- Sex Education is taught in Y6 from a Christian perspective, and is partly taught in single-sex groups.
- The Governors Curriculum Working Party meets three times a year to review the curriculum, establishing areas requiring a particular focus, maximising successes and improving the learning process as a whole. Particular emphasis is given to those pupils with Special Educational Needs and who are identified as Gifted and Talented to help make a contribution to continuous improvement in our methods of teaching.
- Homework is seen as an extension of learning within school and affords all children the opportunity to learn the discipline of working at home in a suitable place, at an appropriate time and organising themselves and their equipment. All these skills need to be developed before children transfer to secondary school. A copy of the school's Homework Policy may be requested from the School Office.

We believe that teaching in school should be an extension to the teaching and morals that children learn at home. We believe therefore, that it is important to foster a partnership between school and parents and parents will be expected to sign a Home/School Agreement.



Our Teaching Aims:

By the time our pupils transfer to secondary school, we aim for them:

- To be capable of reading fluently and with understanding.
- To have developed a legible style of handwriting and satisfactory standards of spelling, punctuation and usage of the English language.
- To communicate clearly and confidently in speech and writing.
- To listen attentively and with understanding.
- To learn how to acquire information from various sources and to record information and findings in various ways.
- To apply skill with numbers with speed and accuracy.
- To apply mathematical and scientific ideas in various situations in the home, school and local area.
- To have become able to develop as individuals, show sensitivity to others, acquire moral values and good habits of honesty, integrity, self-discipline and acceptable behaviour.
- To develop agility, physical coordination and confidence through physical activity.
- To have had experience in music, drama and several forms of art, craft and design technology.
- To be familiar with the Christian faith as revealed in the Bible and have some understanding of the beliefs and practices of other world faiths.

Religious Education:

The school is a Church of England school and strives to work in partnership with parents to help children develop Christian attitudes of helpfulness, compassion, consideration for others and respect for all. This Christian ethos is at the centre of the education that the school provides. Our Christian beliefs underpin everything the school does.

Religious education (RE) lessons and **collective worship** are an integral part of the school's approach to developing Christian attitudes. The Governors wish all children to participate fully in these activities.

As Christ Church is a church school, the Governors respectfully remind parents that they are not expected to exercise their statutory right of withdrawing a child from RE lessons and/or collective worship.



Statutory Assessments:

All maintained schools are required to participate in statutory assessment of all children at the end of each Key Stage (KS). For Christ Church this means Standard Attainment Tasks (SATs) in Y2 and Y6, and Foundation Stage Profiles in YR and Nursery. In addition, all other children in KS2 (years 3-5) sit QCA (Qualification and Curriculum Authority) tests appropriate to their year-group. These tests are taken in May each year, and the results (for Y2 and Y6 only) are published nationally in various forms. Parents are given the individual test results for their own children, and the published results for Y2 and Y6 classes are circulated to all parents. The Foundation Stage profiles are not published except as individual reports to each child's parents.

As well as providing useful practise for Juniors ahead of KS2 SATs, the QCA tests provide the school with benchmarks by which to assess children's progress and ensure that each child is receiving appropriate help and stimulation. In our situation, surrounded by secondary schools many of which select pupils by academic ability, they can also provide parents with an indication of whether or not it would be appropriate to try for a selective secondary place.

SATs results are quoted at one of a number of 'levels'. Children up to the age of 14 (end of KS3, or Y9 secondary) will be assessed as working at one of the levels 1-8. Any child could be assessed at any of these levels, or as 'working towards level 1' (W), but in practise the tests we carry out will give a maximum of level 3 for infants, or level 5 for juniors. Levels can also be split into 'a', 'b' or 'c', where 'c' is the lowest.

The SATs results are published and compared in a number of ways. The simplest is a straightforward comparison of the numbers of children who attain at least the 'normal' or 'average' standard for their age-group (Level 2 for KS1 and level 4 for KS2). This set of results is then compared with other schools in the borough and nationally, to give the standard 'league tables'.

For schools like Christ Church, where the overwhelming majority of children will reach these standards, this is not, perhaps, a very useful measure of performance and a comparison of results attained at the higher levels (levels 3 & 5) is used to differentiate between the higher-performing schools. However, a more valuable measure is available that considers the level attained at KS2 compared with that at KS1. This provides a 'value-added' marker for each child, allowing comparison between all schools of the quality of education provided, regardless of the innate abilities of the children. Our 2006 value-added results show that we are in the top 8% of schools nationally for English and the top 13% for Maths.

The graphs overleaf show Christ Church School's 2006 Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 results compared to those achieved nationally.



Admissions:

The Governors of Christ Church School aim to admit the maximum of 30 children to the reception class each year. The school has been established to serve the families who belong to the Christian (Trinitarian) churches in the area local to the school. As such, being located in the parish of Christ Church, members of that church are given priority. After that, all local churches have equal priority, whether Church of England or other Trinitarian Churches.

The current Admissions Policy and Criteria are available from the School Office as part of the Admissions Pack. This also includes all relevant forms.

Normal admissions to reception

Admissions to all schools in Barnet are coordinated by the Local Authority (LA). The Common Application Form (CAF) and our own supplementary forms should both be completed and returned by the due date, which is set by the LA and typically falls in late December or early January. Offers of places are made through the LA in April.

The intake to YR takes place: in September, children are admitted whose reach their 5th birthday in the Autumn, Spring or Summer terms.

Late applications for reception places

Please contact the School Office to obtain information as to the likelihood of a place becoming available.

Other admissions and waiting lists

Parents of children wishing to join an established class should approach the School Office in the first instance. If there is a place available, it will be offered. If the class is full, the child's name may be added to the waiting list maintained for each class, following the same criteria as for entry into reception. As soon as a place becomes available, it will be offered to the child at the top of the list.

Appeals

The responsibility for admissions to the school rests with Governors. Any parent who is dissatisfied with the Governors' decision has the right of appeal and should contact the School Office within three weeks of receipt of notification of an unsuccessful application.

Accessibility:

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001, has from September 2002 outlawed discrimination by schools and LA's against current or prospective disabled pupils in their access to education. The Act places a duty on maintained schools to produce and publish information about their plans to improve over time the accessibility of schools for disabled pupils.

At Christ Church school we recognise that we have two key duties in ensuring that we do not discriminate against disabled pupils. These are: not to treat disabled pupils less favourably; and to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a disadvantage.

We also have a responsibility to be anticipatory in the formulation of the school's accessibility plan. It is recognised that the school building is not currently fully accessible to wheelchair users. Plans are in place to improve access (through the School Development Plan), to meet the requirements of the School Accessibility Plan. This document may be viewed in the School Office.



Physical Education:

Physical Education forms part of the National Curriculum and Christ Church pupils take full advantage of the school's spacious grounds for both PE lessons and after school activities. These range from weekly football training both before and after school hours, golf, netball and athletics. We participate in a Healthy Activities Week and arrange an annual 'micro-marathon' involving several local primary schools.

- Each year, Christ Church competes in the Cophall Inter-Schools Athletics Tournament held at Cophall Stadium and in 2005 and 2006 was successful in winning the Small Schools Division cup.
- As part of the National Curriculum, pupils in Year 4 undertake swimming lessons. These are currently held at Queen Elizabeth's Girl's School.
- Christ Church is a member of the Barnet Central School Sports Partnership whereby various local primary schools are partnered with local secondary schools. We are very fortunate to be linked to Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School, with whom we enjoy a close and cooperative relationship.

Music and Expressive Arts:

The school has appointed a Music and Expressive Arts leader to promote the strategic development of Music, Dance, Drama and Art across the whole school.

- Christ Church has a broad spectrum of extra curricular music tuition provided by peripatetic staff who visit the school to teach individual and group music lessons in brass, woodwind, string and piano.
- All the children involved in such lessons (and those learning instruments out of school) have opportunities to perform at evening and afternoon school productions/concerts and church services, when parents and family are warmly welcomed. The school also participates in local events such as the Barnet Dance Festival and Barnet Music Festival.
- We aim to foster pupils' creativity, self-expression and manipulative skills through an extensive programme of music, art, drama, dance and PE.
- Many clubs are provided for varying age groups offering, for example, recorder group, strings, brass and choir. The latter is particularly strong.
- Traditionally, our choir and young musicians visit Leathersellers, Marie Fosters and Hadley Lawns to entertain elderly members of the community and perform carols at Christmas.
- We have strong links with Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School, which has Expressive Arts status. We have been appointed a partner school to Queen Elizabeth's School for Boys, a Specialist Music College. This will support music education in our school and include some free instrumental tuition and subsidised Music Theory lessons.



Information and Communication Technology:

The school has appointed an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) leader to plan and coordinate the strategic development of ICT across the whole school.

- Christ Church's ICT suite benefits from 16 brand new, networked computers, (funded by The Friends), using state of the art hardware and software packages and including internet access, suitable for each subject and class. This enables the school to use ICT to support all areas of the curriculum as a cross curricular tool. The interactive white boards situated in each classroom perform a similar task.
- The ICT Leader will continuously monitor and evaluate the quality of teaching and learning of ICT and will identify ongoing training requirements. This will ensure that staff are fully able to prepare our children for the essential requirements of independent research and knowledge needed for the transition to secondary school.

Journeys and Visits:

When educational visits are planned, details are always sent to parents in writing prior to the day. Such visits are an important part of the curriculum and your support would be greatly appreciated. Children in Year 5 have a school journey to Irthlingborough Adventure Centre and Year 6, a field trip to the Yorkshire Dales.

- The Governors believe that a programme of voluntary activities, including visiting speakers from organisations linked to the curriculum, is valuable to our children's education.
- The Governors reserve the right to ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards educational visits. No child will be excluded if parents are unable to contribute. However if there is insufficient financial support from parents in advance, a visit may be subject to cancellation.
- The school's Charging Policy is available from the School Office.



Uniform:

The smart appearance of Christ Church pupils has contributed to the school's fine reputation, of which we are justly proud. School uniform is compulsory, strictly observed and extends to the PE kit. All items of uniform must be clearly labelled or marked with the child's name. No jewellery or make up may be worn and studs only for pierced ears.

- **Boys:** Royal blue school sweatshirt, school tie, white shirt, grey trousers or shorts, grey socks, black shoes for indoor and smart use. In summer, boys may wear a white polo shirt. No open toed sandals.
- **Girls:** Royal blue school sweatshirt or royal blue cardigan, school tie, white shirt, grey skirt or grey school trousers, white socks or grey tights, black shoes with low heels (no boots) for indoor and smart use. In summer, girls may wear a blue and white checked school dress with white socks. No open toed sandals.
- **PE:** Boys and girls require the school PE shirt, navy blue PE shorts and black plimsolls. A plain navy blue tracksuit without logo is required for Years 1-6. Junior boys and girls should have an old pair of trainers or shoes for playground use.

Note: School items (sweatshirt, tie, sun hat, PE shirt, PE bag and book bags) may be purchased from the School Office.

Attendance:

All children are expected to attend school regularly and to be punctual. Registers are marked immediately at the beginning of the morning and afternoon sessions. Late arrivals are disruptive to the class and time consuming for both teachers and office staff.

- Children should arrive at school no earlier than 8.45 am or 1.10 pm for the afternoon session.
- The child's teacher should be informed in writing if an appointment means he/she will arrive in school late or if he/she will be collected during school hours.
- Under no circumstances are infants allowed to leave the school premises unaccompanied and pupils must therefore be signed in and out.
- If a child is to be absent, the School Office should be telephoned by 9.00 am on the day of absence. This should be followed by a written note of explanation on return to school.
- There is no legal entitlement to holiday during the school term and so holidays with parents taken during term time are actively discouraged. In exceptional circumstances, permission should be sought from the Head Teacher before making any booking. Unauthorised absences become part of a child's school records, which will be forwarded to secondary schools. In extreme cases, legal action can be taken over unauthorised absence by the local authority.

Travel Plan:

In recognition of the benefits to both pupils and the environment, the school has a Travel Plan approved by the Local Authority whose overarching objective is for every child to travel part of the journey to or from school by means other than by car on at least one occasion each week. It is aiming to do this through the achievement of a number of elements within the School Travel Plan, including the introduction of walk-to-school days, increasing parental knowledge of suitable bus routes, increasing health and safety awareness and improving local road safety. Cycling to school by qualified pupils is also under consideration.



Healthy School Meals:

In January 2006 the school undertook a radical change to our menu to attempt to make it healthier. The scheme has been extremely successful, with many children changing from packed lunches to take advantage of the delicious healthy and balanced meals cooked from fresh ingredients on the premises by our excellent kitchen staff. A copy of the School Meals Menu is available on request from the School Office. Children are welcome to bring a healthy packed lunch to school if preferred.

Reception and Year 1 and 2 children are provided with free fruit as part of the National Fruit Scheme and free milk is provided to children in Reception.

Health Matters:

If for any reason your child is physically sick at home or in school, they will be expected to remain at home for 24 hours or one clear school day from the time of the last sickness. If a child has a bad cough or cold, they should be kept at home.

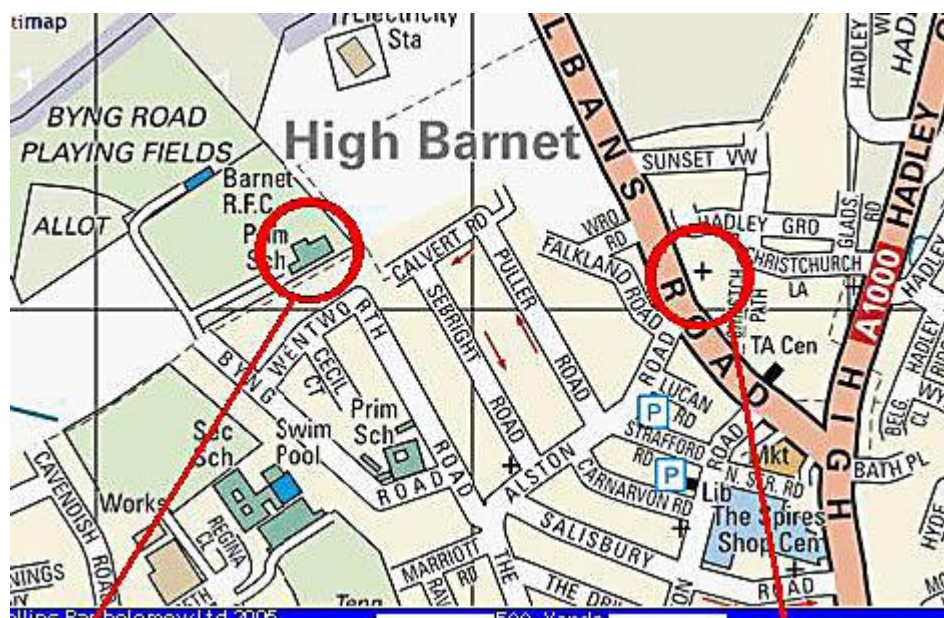
The bringing of medicines into school is not encouraged as it is generally accepted that if a child is on a course of medicine then they are not fit for school. Exceptions to this rule are made in the case of asthma or other long term problems. Under these special circumstances a medical form must be completed in order that medicines may be administered.

Regular examinations are made by the school dentist during a child's time at Christ Church. Hearing and vision tests for YR pupils are carried out at the school, by a nurse from Vale Drive Clinic.

The height and weight of children in YR and Y6 will be measured in accordance with the National Childhood Measurement Programme as recommended by the Barnet Primary Care Trust.



How to find us



Christ Church Primary School

Christ Church

A map of the area, showing the School and Church

School Times:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Infants: | Morning Session | 8.55 am - 12.10 pm |
| | Afternoon Session | 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm |
| | Morning Break | 10.30 am - 10.45 am |
| | Afternoon Break | 2.30 pm - 2.45 pm |
| Juniors: | Morning Session | 8.55 am - 12.15 pm |
| | Afternoon Session | 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm |
| | Morning Break | 10.30 am - 10.45 am |