



OVERARCHING CURRICULUM STATEMENT

INTENT

At St John's C of E VA First School, we aim to provide an ambitious, aspirational and broad curriculum, which has its roots our school values of wisdom, respect, hope, self-control, friendship and perseverance and underpinned by our Christian faith.

- ❖ To promote a positive 'can do' attitude, using our 'Five Be Rules and acknowledge that our mistakes help us learn.
- ❖ To provide an engaging curriculum, which is planned sequentially, allowing children to build on previous learning and securing firm foundations for the future.
- ❖ To excite, inspire and empower children through a range of social, moral, spiritual and cultural experiences alongside offering a range of literature that reflects our values and validates their realities.
- ❖ To promote a sense of community for the children, parents, Church and the wider community.
- ❖ To prepare all pupils for life in our British Society by fostering in them attitudes and qualities which enable them to become confident, caring, responsible citizens

IMPLEMENTATION

The St John's Curriculum has been carefully designed to enable all learners to acquire the relevant knowledge, which underpins the application of skills promoting the best possible progress for all children. For our children this means language rich and talk-based learning opportunities frequently centred on a high quality text and resources that privilege thinking, the provision of meaningful activities that promote engagement, learning, creating and thinking, opportunities to produce high quality work and the recall and application of previously learnt knowledge and skills:

- ❖ The school curriculum map is planned to ensure that teaching is sequential, ensuring that knowledge and skills are taught in a logical and progressive order.
- ❖ Knowledge and skills are carefully mapped across each year group and subject area.
- ❖ Concepts and ideas within lessons are broken down into manageable 'chunks' to ensure access to learning.
- ❖ Teaching is stimulating and varied in style, including visual, auditory and kinaesthetic elements.
- ❖ Lessons incorporate examples, retrieval practice and, over time, revisit teaching and knowledge skills.
- ❖ Knowledge is consolidated and built upon to support retention and recall and where possible is used the following year.
- ❖ Time is provided for children to think, reflect, evaluate and consolidate their learning, promoting independence and responsibility.
- ❖ High quality texts are used from Reception to Year 4 and the teaching of key vocabulary is a primary feature in all subjects.
- ❖ Equal access and opportunity for all children, within the school day and beyond with the enrichment activities on offer
- ❖ On-going formative assessment ensures misconceptions are identified and addressed, and future planning is informed
- ❖ Teachers have good subject knowledge and are supported to maintain and improve this knowledge through training and observing best practice.
- ❖ Subject leaders provide colleagues with support for planning, resourcing and teaching.
- ❖ The St John's Curriculum is regularly reviewed to ensure it remains current and relevant.

INTENDED IMPACT

Our children:

- ❖ Talk confidently and enthusiastically about their learning, using correct terminology across all curriculum areas.
- ❖ Recall and apply key knowledge and skills by making links across subjects and themes.
- ❖ Demonstrate positive learning behaviours, including a 'Growth Mindset'
- ❖ Access, enjoy and make progress within the curriculum regardless of their starting points or barriers to learning.

CULTURAL CAPITAL

At St John's C of E VA First School, we see cultural capital as the accumulation of knowledge, attitudes, habits, language and possessions that enables individuals to demonstrate their cultural competence and social status. Our school plays a crucial role in developing this through immersing children in a range of experiences from, dance and music, visiting theatres, sports festivals, and historic sites and by introducing them to range literature and art. We aim for pupils to leave St John's with a secure understanding of the academic content; with the understanding of how to be socially, morally, spiritually and culturally responsible and aware; how to make positive contributions to the local community and how to endeavour to be the best that they can be. We aim for all of our children to leave St John's respectful, skilful, and ambitious, with a thirst for life and all it has to offer.