

St Mary's Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy



Curriculum Intent Statement

We joyfully live, love and learn in the footsteps of Jesus.

Intent

At St Mary's our curriculum is ambitious and we follow the National Curriculum.

Our school curriculum is deep rooted in giving children at St Mary's the key skills and knowledge they require in order to take advantage of opportunities, responsibilities and experiences in their later lives. Our curriculum aims to reach every child and diminish social disadvantages, giving all children the solid foundations, core learning skills and resilience to achieve.

The curriculum starts in Reception and children are quickly taught how to read phonetically and how to write. Allowing the children to be ready for the various challenges of Key Stage One and beyond. The planning of the curriculum has been carefully sequenced to ensure that children build on previous learning and all staff understand the journey children will take to reach their clearly defined curriculum end points. Medium term planning outlines the sequential steps each subject takes, allowing children to carefully build these key foundations and core learning to learn skills. Staff look for opportunities to engage children in these steps, allowing them to apply skills and knowledge across the curriculum.

The curriculum is constantly refined and reviewed to encapsulate the local context of St Mary's and PSHCE topics are taught through the curriculum and through the wider curriculum, thus allowing children to relate, respond and understand their place in the school, their local community and the wider world.

Through ongoing assessment and careful planning, staff take into account the needs of individual children, whose learning journeys have been hindered or slowed by factors outside of their control. At St Mary's we believe whole heartedly that children should experience the broader curriculum in its fullest form, preparing children for further studies and careers beyond their time here.

At the core of what we do at St Mary's is phonics where we start all children on their journey to being readers and look to develop a life long love for reading. All teaching staff and teaching assistants are phonetically trained and from their first days in Reception, children are taught how to read. Developing reading skills and giving children at every stage of their reading journey opportunities to read, equipping them with the key learning tools they require to be lifelong learners.

We want our curriculum to prepare children for the next stage of their education and this is a challenge as children move on to a number of secondary schools when leaving us. Our curriculum intends to provide the children with access to a wide range of experiences in order to do this. We believe a broad and balanced curriculum is essential in meeting these goals. At St Mary's our children are immersed in topics which reflect the current local, national and world contexts. Allowing them to think about the many things they learn, remember and use, in relation to their place in our school, our local community and in the world. As each term delves into a bespoke and engaging curriculum, children develop their understanding of current issues and learn how to think and act as historians, geographers and scientists.

At St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy our definition of progress is; the widening and deepening of essential knowledge, skills, understanding and learning behaviours. We design, organise and plan our curriculum to ensure that children are not merely covering content but achieving a depth to their learning which enables them to use their skills and understanding in all areas of the curriculum. Our curriculum design and planning means that we build in many opportunities for repetition and practise for essential skills, knowledge and understanding in every subject. This ensures that children can revisit previous learning, which allows them to gradually develop a deeper understanding of the skills and processes within subjects, at their own pace and in the best possible way for each individual child. We believe in 'Quality First Teaching' which reduces the need for intervention groups and therefore promotes full access to the curriculum for all children. Our curriculum runs from the essential learning experiences in Reception at age four, through to the lessons and curriculum covered in Class Six, where children are readied for Key Stage three and the challenges which lay ahead.



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Rationale	Mission Statement	We joyfully live love and learn in the footsteps of Jesus														
	Context	Catholic Christian education based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ														
	Aims	Wide catchment area			Pupils move onto different secondary schools				Semi-rural Market Town							
		To ensure our school's Mission Statement is lived out by all pupils.	To ensure that our children receive the very best education that we can provide.	That our children develop an understanding and contribute to the locality and have an understanding of the world they live in.	For our children to be healthy in body and in mind.	To inspire and nurture an appreciation of all forms of art within the children										
Ambition	Broad and Balanced Curriculum based on the National Curriculum and statutory framework for EYFS	EYFS Ea	English	Maths	Science	Design and Technology	History	Geography	Art and Design	Music	PE	Computing	MfL	PHSE/SRE		
	Virtues	Love/ Friendship		Faith			Thankfulness	Resilience	Courage			Justice				
	RE	Comprehensive RE scheme taught throughout school				Regular child and adult led Collective Worship				Catholic Life of the School						
	Wider Curriculum opportunities	Music Lessons		Trips/Visits		Choir			Festival Work			Participation in Remembrance Service		Extracurricular sports clubs		
		Chaplaincy Team Outreach work		Curriculum Enrichment Opportunities		Christmas Concerts			Sports Teams			Community Work		Lead Collective Worship		
	Roles and Responsibilities	School Council		Head Boy/Girl		Librarians		Chaplaincy team/ Mini Vinnies		Cloakroom monitors		House Captains		Sports Ambassadors		Class monitors
Concepts	Teaching/ Provision of learning based on research	<u>Reviewing material</u> Daily/weekly/monthly reviews of learning.			<u>Sequencing of Concepts and Modelling</u> New material presented in small steps. Models provided. Scaffolds provided for difficult tasks.			<u>Questioning</u> Teacher checks for pupil understanding. All pupils involved in questioning.			<u>Stages of Practice</u> Opportunities for guided practice. Opportunities for independent practice. Pupils obtain a high success rate.			<u>Quality First Teaching</u> Insistence on Quality first teaching		