



St Mary's Church of England Primary School
Established 1845

Curriculum

The curriculum will be based on the principles outlined below. Fundamentally, the curriculum will promote the broad set of values established by the National Forum for Values in Education and the Community:

- **The Self:** We value ourselves as unique human beings capable of spiritual, moral, intellectual and physical growth and development.
- **Relationships:** We value others for themselves, not only for what they have or what they can do for us. We value relationships as fundamental to the development and fulfilment of ourselves and others, and to the good of the community.
- **Society:** We value truth, freedom, justice, human rights, the rule of law and collective effort for the common good. In particular, we value families as sources of love and support for all their members, and as the basis of a society in which people care for others.
- **The Environment:** We value the environment, both natural and shaped by humanity, as the basis of life and a source of wonder and inspiration.

Through the curriculum, these values will be explored and developed, in order that the pupils receive an experience that is both balanced and inspirational. Being a small school there will be mixed age classes and, accordingly, there will be a rolling programme of topics to ensure a balanced approach and full coverage of the National Curriculum.

Overall, the curriculum at St. Mary's CE Primary School will provide the opportunity for all pupils, regardless of background or ability, ethnicity or faith, to learn and achieve at the highest level, whilst promoting their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

It will concentrate on ensuring a sound foundation in the basic skills of reading, writing mathematics and science, but will be supplemented with opportunities for interest and stimulation that will enable pupils to apply those skills with purpose and interest. To assist in achieving these aims, a number of initiatives will be developed;

- Forest School, Geography & Science will place particular emphasis on the local environment and eco-systems, sustainability, conservation, water management and the impact of farming and woodland management in relation to similar global issues.
- Local History: the history of village that predates the Saxons will be used as a resource that will bring the subject to life.
- Creativity: the use of local artists, musicians and drama specialists will also enhance learning and experience in this area.

We want our pupils to experience a curriculum that is broad and stimulating. Whenever possible we aim to make thematic links across curriculum subjects to provide the children with clear and coherent learning objectives. However, teachers will be encouraged to seize unexpected moments of awe and wonder by pursuing the children's interests and thereby developing curiosity, imagination and general knowledge. A 'Human Sense' pedagogy will be adopted, building on pupils prior understanding that will encourage them to link their experiences to their learning. Understanding of the wider world is enhanced by comparing and contrasting their own lives and environment with those of others, both in the past and the present.

Specific knowledge and skills, are based on the New National Strategies and will be taught in individual subject areas. As a FREE SCHOOL we have also a degree of flexibility of what we teach. Children will be encouraged to apply their learning widely through independent research and problem solving.

Particular emphasis will be placed on the use of local cultural and environmental resources and settings; frequent use will be made of the wide range of opportunities within walking distance of our school, including farms, woods, streams and historic buildings.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM SUBJECT AREAS

Core Subjects	Foundation Subjects
English Mathematics Science	Art & Design Design & Technology (including Cookery) Computing History Geography MFL (French) Music Physical Education PSHE Religious Education

The core & foundation overviews should be read in conjunction with this introduction.

Approved By _____ Position
Chair of Governors

Person Responsible _____ Position
Principal

Review Date September 2017