

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



Curriculum Policy

“The goal of education is not to increase the amount of knowledge but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover, to create people who are capable of doing new things.”

Jean Piaget

Reviewed: September 2019

To be reviewed: September 2021 unless changes are required sooner

Statement of Intent

Our curriculum stems from our Mission Statement: ‘with the love of God our dreams and ambitions come true’ and has been designed to reflect that life at Sacred Heart is rich, varied, inclusive, exciting, challenging and inspiring.

Our broad and balanced curriculum promotes pupils spiritual, moral social and cultural development and provides opportunities for pupils to:

- Be happy, enthusiastic and reflective learners who take an active part in lessons
- Think creatively, engage in problem solving and develop their resilience
- To develop an awareness of their own and other religious and spiritual development;
- To become responsible, rights-respecting and caring citizens who appreciate diversity and make a positive contribution to our school and wider community
- To develop their confidence and their capacity to learn and work independently and cooperatively with others
- To develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in all areas to enable them to make rapid progress

In order to allow the children to fully develop these aptitudes, language is a key focus for us, both to develop the children’s communication abilities, and also to provide them with the rich and specific vocabulary from across the curriculum that underpins their knowledge and understanding, further enhancing their subject specific knowledge and understanding.

We teach the National curriculum using a subject based approach that is enhanced by a carefully planned range of educational visits and memorable learning experiences, which may include theme days, key speakers and visitors to school. We use a range of teaching strategies that take into account the ways in which children learn in order to foster engagement, motivation and creativity.

Our curriculum alongside the National Curriculum promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities and experiences of later life

Curriculum Provision

The aim of the National Curriculum in England is to:

“provide pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens. It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.....

.....The national curriculum provides an outline of core knowledge around which teachers can develop exciting and stimulating lessons to promote the development of pupils’ knowledge, understanding and skills as part of the wider school curriculum.”

At Sacred Heart, a full range of national curriculum subjects are delivered in order to offer all of our children a broad and balanced curriculum. These include: English, Mathematics, Religious Education, Science, History, Geography, Art and Design, Design Technology, Physical Education, Music, Spanish and Computing. Philosophy for Learning, British Values, Personal, Social and Health Education, Citizenship and Safer Messages are woven within our whole school curriculum, along with the RSE programme to support our RE curriculum.

The staff at Sacred Heart endeavour to ensure that all children are motivated, inspired and want to learn. The learning experiences that they provide are enriched through visits, visitors, themed weeks and extra-curricular activities. Years 4 and 6 have the opportunity to participate in a residential visit to further broaden their experiences.

Sacred Heart staff set high expectations for all children and plan to ensure that there are no barriers to every child achieving. During termly Pupil Progress Meetings and Subject Leader Interviews the progress and attainment of every child across all curriculum areas are discussed.

Special Educational Needs

Where a child is identified as having special needs a programme of support is agreed between the Inclusion Manager and class teacher. Where necessary, support may be sought from outside agencies following consultation with parent(s)/carer(s).

Early Years and Foundation Stage

Children in Reception follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. Curriculum planning focuses on the Early Learning Goals and on developing children's skills and experiences, building on their pre-school experiences and preparing them to successfully access the Key Stage 1 curriculum.

The seven areas of learning and development are:

PRIME AREAS

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

SPECIFIC AREAS

- Literacy

- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

We fully support the principle that young children learn through play, and by engaging in well planned structured activities. Our curriculum is based around carefully planned topics that are implemented in a variety of ways through whole group, small group and individual situations.

The aims of our EYFS is:

- to provide a structured, secure, caring and very well resourced learning environment; both inside and out, which meets the individual developmental needs of all children
- to enable all children to become confident, motivated and happy learners, developing the skills and attitudes necessary for their own future learning.

The Role of the Subject Leader

The staff at Sacred Heart are responsible for the leadership of one of the curriculum subjects. Each subject leader reviews the curriculum plans for their subject, ensures that there is full coverage of the national curriculum programmes of study and that there is progression of skills.

Additional responsibilities include:

- Providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject
- Supporting and offering advice to colleagues on issues related the subject
- Monitoring pupil progress in the subject area
- Providing efficient resource management for the subject

Monitoring and Review

The governing body's standards committee and School Improvement Partner are responsible for monitoring the way in which the school curriculum is implemented. The Curriculum Leader is responsible for the monitoring and reviewing of all curriculum planning and ensuring all subject leaders and teachers receive relevant, high quality CPD opportunities

Signed _____

September 2019