



# St Clare's Catholic Primary School

*Following in the footsteps of Jesus*

## Curriculum Intent

St Clare's curriculum is closely designed around our school mission and vision statements and has been developed to support the needs of our community and the child as a whole. Our curriculum is designed to be creative, inspiring and challenging. We intend to offer our pupils new and exciting experiences that are designed to build resilience, confidence and self-esteem both in the classroom and through extra-curricular activities. We recognise that pupils should be challenged in their school; learning from failures and celebrating successes. We intend for our curriculum to enable pupils to develop their interpersonal skills, creativity and independence.

Encompassed within our vision, is the need for pupils to experience a wide range of knowledge and learning opportunities that broadens their understanding and equips them with the skills required to be successful, confident learners who reach their full potential.

Due to the context of our school, we endeavour to enable all our pupils to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to enable them to thrive. We believe access to a high quality, broad and balanced curriculum is the right of all pupils.

We are working towards a 'Knowledge Rich Curriculum' where children acquire a depth of knowledge in all areas of the curriculum. Our approach is cross-curricular and, alongside this, we build in enriching and enlivening topic weeks which immerse the children in a variety of relevant themes. A curriculum that is literacy rich and language rich is a must for our school so that we can open doors for the children's futures. We, therefore, place a high focus on developing the children's vocabulary and spoken skills and use quality texts to do this. Reading is at the heart of our school and central to the children's learning.

As a Catholic School, the teachings of the gospels are at the centre of everything we do. Pupils are taught to treat each other with respect and to support each other in their learning. We aim to ensure that pupils enjoy learning and feel prepared for life after school. It is our intention that pupils leave St. Clare's with a sense of belonging to a community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.

## Implementation

Cross curricular - Our approach to the Foundation Subjects is cross curricular and we seek opportunities to make authentic links with the core subjects whenever possible. The Focus scheme is used and a school over-view is used to ensure sequential learning.

Driver - In each cross curricular topic a foundation subject will feature more heavily and this is known as the driver topic.

WOW- a wow experience is expected within each topic to hook the children in and make their experiences memorable.

Stand alone - Some Foundation subjects are primarily stand alone for example PE, MFL and Music although links are still sought whenever appropriate.

Topic Weeks- whole school topic weeks take place throughout the year. These are determined by the school needs or relevant, upcoming themes. A cross curricular approach is encouraged

RE- As a Catholic school, the RE curriculum is central to the whole school curriculum and underpins all teaching. It is a core subject and we follow 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' scheme of work with timetable collective worship and daily lessons.

National Curriculum - through expert understanding of the statutory requirements we have created a curriculum that builds high level knowledge, skills and understanding for ALL pupils. It is broad, balanced and promotes depth of study.

Literacy Links- Reading and Writing are a feature of all Foundations Subjects. Links between reading and writing and the foundation subjects are encouraged.

Communication and Language- Developing communication and oral skills is a feature of all Foundation subjects. Extending vocabulary and ensuring subject specific vocabulary is taught and is a feature of planning and display.

Home School Links - Children are encouraged to research questions at home and to create and design a range of craft work at home related to their class topic.

## Impact

Pupils enjoy making links between curriculum areas and have opportunities to apply basic skills across the curriculum. They experience a broad and balanced curriculum.

Assessment - through the teaching of key knowledge and skills, teachers are able to assess pupil outcomes against focus objectives. Outcomes in each curriculum area are monitored and tracked. Medium term plans are evaluated and adapted.

Both summative and formative assessment approaches are used.

Monitoring Cycle - A cycle of monitoring takes place which include lesson observations, book scrutiny, learning walks and pupil consultations in English and Maths and is being developed across all other curriculum areas.

If you have any questions regarding the curriculum we teach please contact the school directly.