



ST. EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Statement

Updated Spring Term 2022

St. Edward's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Introduction

At St. Edward's School we value the education of the whole child. We aim to provide a broad, balanced, creative, curriculum, which promotes spiritual, moral, academic, cultural, emotional and physical development.

The two main aims of our curriculum, which underpin what we do in both curriculum lessons and extra-curricular activities are: that all children become people of good character and that all children make a positive contribution to their community, including the world-wide community.

The first of these aims arises from our Catholic context: spirituality is central to the life of the school. Our aim is to guide children on their Christian journey developing people of good character, through daily prayer and liturgy as well as through teaching the Virtues and the Way, Truth and Life Religious Education Scheme that is used throughout the school.

Our second aim is led by the fact that Boston Spa has a population that is predominantly white and British; due to this we are an International School, ensuring that pupils learn about people of other cultures, faiths and nationalities as they do not experience these in the area they live. There are many opportunities for children to make a positive contribution in the school community, and then this filters out into the parish and local community and then into learning about how to make a positive contribution globally, including through our work as an Eco School.

Practices

The National Curriculum 2014 is taught in the school and is designed to develop pupils' knowledge, talents and skills. Varied and flexible programmes of activities are planned and chosen to encourage exploration, observation and communication. The curriculum is designed to enable all children to: Enjoy and Achieve, Stay Safe, Keep Healthy and Achieve Economic Well-being (acquisition of key skills in English, Maths and Computing).

The National Curriculum is organised and managed through subjects with links made between subjects where appropriate. The curriculum is ordered sequentially so that children develop skills progressively and both revise and build up further knowledge. Knowledge Organisers identify the knowledge to be covered in each unit of work.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education has its roots in the Catholic teaching of the school. It is taught in part through a themed week with appropriate links made to RE and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and Science.

A wide range of teaching methods are used throughout the school day. Children are taught as a whole class, in small groups and individually. Much of the teaching takes place in the classroom but there are times when children work in others areas of the school.

Educational visits out of school and visitors to the school are a feature of the curriculum at St. Edward's.

Class teachers plan and prepare the curriculum for their class. Current teaching plans are held in a central Planning File so that they are available for supply teachers when needed. An assessment file is also held alongside the teaching file and assessment is used to inform planning and teaching.

Provision is made for those children who may experience difficulty with their learning. This provision is outlined in Personalised Learning Plans and delivered through various assistance programmes, work with teaching assistants and support through the Local Authority where necessary.

Parents are welcome to the school and are encouraged to work alongside the children.

Each member of the teaching staff, including the Head teacher, has responsibility for one or more curriculum areas. The subject leader holds a file containing details of the role and ways in which those curriculum areas are managed and organised. All subject leaders monitor annually through book scrutiny, learning walks, collecting planning and pupil feedback.

The school also operates a programme for lesson observations which brings all the subjects into focus on a three year cycle though RE and aspects of both English and Maths are observed annually.

Children are asked to do homework on a regular basis. As the children progress through school this becomes more formal. The children are encouraged to take part in after-school activities outside the school as well as those offered through the school.

The whole of the curriculum is guided and reviewed through a number of policies which are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. A "Curriculum File" file holds the

policies that now operate in the school. Each teacher has their own policy file containing these policies.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils have equal access to the curriculum, regardless of gender, race, religion, background, disability, SEN or any other factor. The school operates an Equal Opportunities Policy.