

St Augustine's CE (VA) Primary School

Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact

2020 – 2021



Curriculum Intent

At St-Augustine's, the intent of our curriculum is to enable each child to participate fully in current and future society as a responsible, self-confident citizen of our town, country and world. Our curriculum aims to ensure that when children leave school, they are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to make the right choices in every aspect of their lives.

Our broad and balanced curriculum has been designed so that all children make progress from their low starting points on entry to school and develop a love for learning. With a key focus on speaking and listening and vocabulary acquisition, we ensure that all children can access all that is on offer on their journey through school. Throughout the curriculum there are planned opportunities for children to develop their abilities to speak confidently and articulate their opinions. We have high expectations for all pupils, including those with SEND for whom we adapt the curriculum appropriately.

Many of our children come to school with limited life experiences. An integral part of our curriculum design is to broaden children's minds by providing a rich and engaging curriculum. We strive to expand our children's horizons and knowledge by nurturing their interests as well as encouraging understanding of what is new or unknown through trips, visitors to school and first-hand experiences.

At St Augustine's CE (VA) Primary School, we believe that an effective curriculum actively develops the spiritual, moral, social and cultural qualities of all pupils, including a mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs to their own. Thus, we regard the curriculum as not only what is taught directly in class, but the totality of the child's experience at the school. This includes our assemblies which bring the school together, focussing on our Christian values. Wherever possible, we set learning in the local area and the UK, celebrating diversity to emphasise unity.

Our curriculum is designed to promote the mental health and well-being of our children. This is woven through the curriculum so that at each stage of their learning, children learn how to keep themselves safe, well and active. Embedded in the different subjects, children are taught cooking and nutrition in every year group at St Augustine's. Along with a strong focus on physical education, and a growing number of extra-curricular clubs on offer this ensures the children have opportunities to maintain and develop a healthy, active lifestyle.

Implementation

All subjects within the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Strategy are planned for and covered in full within the school curriculum. A two-year teaching cycle is in place in Reception and Key Stage 1 to ensure continuity for our mixed year group classes. Where appropriate, personalised learning programs are in place for groups of children and individuals to ensure access to a broad and balanced curriculum. Vocabulary is taught explicitly to ensure there is an in-depth understanding of each curriculum area.

Each subject is carefully sequenced to ensure that previous knowledge is embedded and built upon to deepen understanding and to commit learning to long term memory. The specific disciplines of each subject are then taught in depth at age related expectations. Where appropriate, subjects are then grouped together as a 'topic' to ensure learning is relevant and engaging to all pupils. Opportunities to practice and revisit skills, knowledge and vocabulary are built into the curriculum to ensure a deep understanding of each discipline.

The areas of learning or 'topic' begin with a hook to grab the children's attention and lessons are planned to ensure the children make connections across a variety of subjects. There are links to mathematics where children are given the opportunity to apply their understanding of this subject in different contexts. Where subjects are taught discretely, they are still sequenced carefully to ensure progression in skills and knowledge from year group to year group. Throughout the topic, children review their work to develop an understanding of their attainment and progress over time.

Throughout the year we hold special curriculum days with the aim of stimulating, focussing and challenging children in specific subject areas and values of our school community.

Parents are encouraged to play a key role in supporting their children's learning. Each term we send home a curriculum booklet which details the knowledge and skills that children will be learning over the coming term. It also includes key dates and how parents can support their child in their learning.

Impact

The impact of our rich and ambitious curriculum will be children leaving St Augustine's CE (VA) Primary School as engaged, confident learners who have a deep understanding of themselves and the world around them. They will have an excellent vocabulary, be knowledgeable across a range of subjects and be able to demonstrate a wide range of skills specific to each subject discipline. Children will know what they need to do to be a good friend, family member and citizen of our local community, country and world.