



## Curriculum Aims

At St. Mary's, we are a proud Catholic school, with Christ at the heart of everything we do. We believe that every child is a gift from God, created in his own image and likeness. Our Mission Statement affirms that our aim is that every child reaches their full potential.

Pupils' learning and development is at the centre of our school's curriculum; it is broad, balanced and challenging, ensuring pupils develop the skills necessary to succeed in life after primary school.

Our welcoming and nurturing environment, based on the Gospel Values, also allows every individual to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural growth.

We recognise that our children are the leaders of tomorrow and that we must prepare them to play an active and responsible role in society.

## INTENT

### Why do we teach what we teach?

At St. Mary's we aim to fulfil our mission to cherish and value each child, and enable them to grow in confidence through all aspects of their school life and especially through Personal and Social Development. We encourage children to learn and achieve whilst supporting them in their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

We aim to provide a Catholic Christian education based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, in which the values of the Gospel underpin all aspects of school life; To provide a friendly, nurturing environment in which the dignity of each person as a child of God is recognised and developed; and to promote the full potential of each child through a curriculum which develops spiritual, academic, creative, social and emotional growth; To provide a curriculum which is enriching and challenging, where pupils experience the opportunity to learn in a wide range of contexts. We see personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education is an important and necessary part of all pupils' education in order to equip pupils with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions. Lessons are planned to cover all of the required objectives and follows the three core areas of Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World.

### We aim to ensure:

All children are happy learners; developing their skills to the best of their ability;

We foster a love of learning, so that children acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning;

We teach children about the love of God and to build their relationship with Him;

We fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum;

We fulfil the requirements of the AcSEED award.

We enable all children to acquire the basic skills in PSHE;

We enable creativity, imagination and critical thinking to flourish;

We teach children about the developing world, including how the environment and society have changed over time;

We help children understand Britain's cultural heritage and the heritage of other cultures

We enable children to be positive citizens in society, empowered to be the leaders of tomorrow, making a difference in the world;

We teach about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and appreciate the importance of mental wellbeing

We enable children to have respect for themselves and high self-esteem, and to be able to live and work co-operatively with others

## INCLUSION

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is an inclusive school, which supports and encourages all children to achieve. We are committed to high quality teaching and learning opportunities with Quality First Teaching at the core of curriculum planning. Pupils with special education needs (including gifted and talented children) receive support where appropriate, including differentiated work and small group support from TA's.

## IMPLEMENTATION

### How do we teach what we teach?

Throughout St Mary's, PSHE is taught progressively and given a high profile within an engaging, broad and balanced curriculum.

In Reception, PSHE is delivered to children through all aspects of the EYFS curriculum. It is an area of the primary early learning goals and an important area which permeates throughout all other areas. Development matters is used as a guidance and TEN TEN materials. Our RE curriculum 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' for Foundations Stage, Years 5 and 6 alongside 'The Vine and the Branches' for Years 1 to 4 also support this curriculum.

In St. Mary's we believe that it is important to tailor our local PSHE programme to reflect the needs of our children, we aim to follow a programme that will equip our children with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions.

We will draw on good practice and advice from professional organisations where necessary to support our PSHE programme of study. Our RE curriculum and the 'TEN TEN' programme also supports the delivery of PSHE and RSE. We link our lessons to 'Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural' (SMSC) statements and 'statements to live by'.

## **IMPACT**

### **How do we measure what we teach?**

At St Mary's, we keep abreast of the progress and attainment of all children throughout their learning journey. We do this in a variety of ways:

- We provide children with knowledge organisers for all topics taught.
- We use interactive Kahoot quizzes based on different elements of topics.
- We ensure children apply their skills.
- We ensure learning is distributed over multiple sessions rather than being massed into one chunk. We do this through our training in Spaced Retrieval Practice.
- We use our 'Bee-attitudes' which focusses on nurture, resilience, empathy and global citizenship.
- We use 'picture news' each week to encourage discussion.
- We use the 'school council' to give the children a vehicle for debate and change
- We use our nurture room and wellbeing resources to support this area.
- We use 'Charlie' our nurture dog to support this area.
- We have 'Wellbeing Days' and events.
- We focus on key vocabulary for all topics which is highly visible throughout our school.
- We use assessment tools such as end of topic tasks, quizzes, essays and recall of content in knowledge organisers.
- We conduct pupil voice interviews to assess children's understanding and views on different topics.
- Staff meeting time provided for CPD opportunities and to moderate pieces of work across key stages.

### **Fundraising**

Our children are also actively encouraged to take part in fundraising events, as we believe that donating to charities shows them, that from a young age, they can make positive changes in the world.

These are just a few of the charities that we support:

- Cheshire Down Syndrome Support Group
- CAFOD
- Mary's Meals
- Middlewich food bank

*"It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it."*

**Nelson Mandela**