

Curriculum

Teaching & Learning Policy



Love, Learn and shine together with Jesus

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Curriculum Leader: Jen Evans

Statement of Intent:

At St. Matthew's Catholic Primary school, we strive to develop the whole person. We believe that each person is a unique individual with unique interests and learning needs. At St Matthew's, we aim to provide a curriculum that develops our children to be socially, morally, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually fulfilled. Our mission statement of 'Love, Learn and Shone together with Jesus' is at the heart of everything that we do.

At St. Matthew's the Gospel Values are at the heart of our rich, broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum. We aim to provide:

- A curriculum which is challenging, exciting, fun and relevant to our children and the community we serve.
- An inclusive curriculum which encourages, curiosity and develops creativity, independence and resilience.
- A curriculum which builds on the interests, strengths, talents and experiences of our pupils.
- A curriculum which develops confidence in working both independently and collaboratively as part of a team
- A curriculum that provides opportunities for parental involvement and support in working together to provide the best outcomes for our children.
- Curriculum leaders and teachers who will evaluate their practice in order to make their subjects and learning experiences the best that they can be.
- A curriculum which celebrates cultural diversity and through which our pupils recognise their role as global citizens of the world.
- A curriculum that educates children about future career opportunities ("what a scientist does", 'what a historian does' etc and develops their 'culture capital'.

Curriculum Provision at St. Matthew's

The aim of the National Curriculum in England is to provide 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 St. Matthew's 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 (KS2) and Computing. RSHE, British Values, Personal, Social and Health Education, Citizenship and Safer Messages are woven within our whole school curriculum and during discrete PSHE lessons.

At St Matthew's, we feel that children learn best through both written and practical tasks and that quality learning takes time. As a school, through consultation with children and teaching staff that the curriculum subjects are taught on a 2 week basis (Week A and B). Core subjects such as maths, english, phonics, spelling, basic skills, comprehension, Reading Plus, reading for pleasure, RE, PSHE and PE are taught weekly. The following subjects are taught in alternating weekly lessons and per half term. Please see example timetable below:

Week A Example Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45- 9:00	Prayer Assembly	Basic Skills	Basic Skills	Basic Skills	Merit Assembly
9:00-9:10		Prayer and Liturgy	Prayer and Liturgy	Prayer and Liturgy	Times tables / Spelling test
9:10-10:30		Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	
9:30-10:30	English	English	English	English	English
10:30-10:45	Positive Playtimes				
10:45-11:45	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
11:45-12:30	Reading Times tables/Handwriting	RE	Reading Times tables/Handwriting	RE	Reading
12:30-1:30	Lunch				
1:30-2:30	PE Indoor (1.30-2.20)	History	RE (1.30-2.30)	Outdoor PE (Year 5)	Science
2:30 – 3:00	Spanish (2.20-3.00)	Computing (2:15 – 3pm)		Behaviour	PE Comprehension
3:00 – 3:15	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure

Week B Example Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45- 9:00	Prayer Assembly	Basic Skills	Basic Skills	Basic Skills	Merit Assembly
9:00-9:10		Prayer and Liturgy	Prayer and Liturgy	Prayer and Liturgy	Times tables / Spelling test
9:10-10:30		Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	
9:30-10:30	English	English	English	English	English
10:30-10:45	Positive Playtimes				
10:45-11:45	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
11:45-12:15	Reading Times tables/Handwriting	RE	Reading Times tables/Handwriting	RE	Reading
12:30-1:30	Lunch				
1:30-2:30	PE Indoor (1.30-2.20)	Art	RE (1.30-2.30)	Outdoor PE (Year 5)	Science
2:30 – 3:00	Spanish (2.20-3.00)	Computing (2:15 – 3pm)		PSHE	PE Comprehension
3:00 – 3:15	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure

As shown in the above timetables, History and Art are being taught. This will alternate with Geography and Design Technology in the following half term.

The staff at St. Matthew's 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. When insurance allows us to do so, years 2, 4 and 6 will continue to have the opportunity to participate in a residential visit to further broaden their experiences.

St. Matthew's staff set high expectations for all children and plan to ensure that there are no barriers to every child achieving. End of year milestones/expectations are clearly planned and progress is measured against these. During Pupil Progress Meetings the progress and attainment of every child is discussed. Through these discussions additional support/challenge is evaluated and planned for where necessary.

Through the curriculum that we provide at St Matthew's we intent for our learners to be skilled readers, confident writers, mathematicians, scientists, historians, geographers, musicians, artists, linguistics, athletes, designers, computational thinkers and programmers.

Special Educational Needs

Where a child is identified as having special needs, a programme of support is agreed between Mrs Gaskell as SENCO, Miss Roberts as Assistant SENCO and class teacher. Where necessary, support may be sought from outside agencies following consultation with parent(s)/carer(s).

Early Years 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 St. Matthew's are responsible for the leadership of one or more 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 (see subject leader handbook)>

Additional responsibilities include:

- Providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject
- Supporting and offering advice to colleagues on issues related to 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 alongside members of the Senior Leadership Team.

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. The curriculum lead will meet throughout the academic year to plan, develop and monitor the impact of changes implemented throughout their subject.