

# Curriculum Statement

Darwen St James'  
C of E Primary Academy



## **What Nurturing ambition through a living Faith looks like through our broad and balanced curriculum at Darwen St James'**

### **Nurture –**

We strive to work collaboratively to provide a nurturing environment, through Christian values, where everyone feels happy, safe, secure and valued. We aim to Nurture excitement, wonder, a thirst for learning and a want to develop within all aspects of of curriculum. Our Academy seeks to challenge our pupils and encourage them to take risks and get out of their comfort zone, through challenge events every half term, life experiences and bucket list activities as well as creatively planned activities in lessons. Through our Growth Mindset approach we celebrate mistakes and through making our environment a safe place, pupils are open to learning through their mistakes. We understand that sticky knowledge is key and so create opportunities throughout our curriculum to ensure this takes place, through our Maths Mastery approach, through timed Spacing, through key cross curricular links and through the editing processing our writing. We ensure to nurture the whole child, including talents and interests and ambitions through challenge days, Aim High day, after school clubs and also St James' Got talent show. Mental health and wellbeing of our school community is paramount and something we look at through not only our PSHE curriculum, but also through E-safety and through our Nurture Groups.

### **Ambition –**

At Darwen St James' we strive to develop a holistic curriculum that meets the needs of the children and ensures they have the skills, knowledge and understanding to be successful in a constantly changing world. We aim to inspire all learners to take responsibility for their own learning and become independent, curious, resilient, lifelong learners. We want to ensure that through our curriculum we show purpose to the learning that the children do, whether that be to ready them for the next stage in their learning or to encourage them to see what the future holds in terms of employment and career. We instill in all of our community the need to be resilient and to persevere, using Growth Mindset language to encourage this at all times. Our curriculum is broad and balanced, so that we can capture the interest or ignite new passions within our pupils. Throughout the year, we invite inspirational speakers to join our school community to share their stories about their jobs, their education, their drive and their passion that made them achieve, in the hope to share that belief in all of our pupils. Within our Nurture Groups, we visit entrepreneurship, developing our own companies with roles, business plans, product development, manufacturing, selling and the of course profit or loss. The children and staff both become completely engaged in the process and apply their learning to a working situation.

# Curriculum Statement

Darwen St James'  
C of E Primary Academy



## Faith-

We have chosen 5 whole school values to live out through our actions and deeds, which echoes our schools Bible verse. These values are Perseverance, Courage, Hope, Love and Friendship. Our values are intrinsic to how we deliver our curriculum, creating a culture of understanding and empathy for the beliefs and opinions of others. Our Growth Mindset approach encourages not only the value of perseverance, but also courage to take risks and rise to new challenges. Our Mission to nurture ambition is seen in our value of hope, the hope that we put into our pupils to succeed and be the best that they possibly can be. Our values of Love and Friendship, are shown in forming good relationships, showing respect for themselves and others through their behaviour for learning and is taught through staff modelling good conduct and clear and consistent expectations for all pupil's, shown in our behaviour policy.

## Citizens-

Through our holistic curriculum we strive to prepare all children to take their place as responsible and valued members of the local, national and global communities. We recognise the importance of ensuring children have a voice in our school, through our Academy Council and our Worship Team. We also include World events and festivals in news time and Worships, encourage and teach debate through our debating club and try to involve school as much as possible in local community events or issues, from litter picking and talking to the local councillor about recycling to caring for a war memorial. At Darwen St James', we value differences and ensure that these are recognised and celebrated by the children, as we know the world would be a very boring place if we were all the same! British values are promoted in all that we do and our vision statement reflects the aim we have as an academy to give the skills and knowledge to all of our pupils to enable them to become positive citizens and make valid contributions to our society.

In conclusion, our curriculum not only fulfills the aims of the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, it seeks to develop the whole child, spark interest and wonder within our learners, is tailored to suit the needs of the community that we serve and ensures that there this a clear purpose to learning, to lift the ambition within all of our pupils. Darwen St James' looks to create a culture of achievement in which individual, personal, social and academic success is both recognised and celebrated.