

## **Curriculum Drivers**

At St Anne's, our pupils are at the heart of everything we do. We guide them to grow in God's love and to build relationships which will enable them to make a positive contribution to our school, our community and our wider world. We work tirelessly to ensure that our children receive a School Curriculum that is designed to broaden their horizons and extend the boundaries of their lives. When designing our curriculum, we took into account the needs of our learners and community, our vision and values, and the location of our school. With this in mind, we work to prioritise the opportunities we want our children to have during their time with us, so that by the time they leave they have the greatest number of choices, options and directions open to them. Below is a summary of the key factors which inform the choices we make and drive our aspirations for them. We use these 'drivers' to underpin the direction and development of all areas of school life and to ensure our curriculum is enriched and personalised in order to meet the needs, interests and ambitions of our children and their families.

### **Respectful Communicators**

It is the primary aim of our curriculum, that our children develop the skills necessary to communicate their thoughts, ideas and feelings successfully in a wide range of different forms. Children need to know how to speak and listen with respect in a variety of different situations. They need the ability to read well and read widely as this broadens horizons, develops imagination and provides a rich vocabulary through which to construct knowledge and understand the world. Being able to write clearly, comfortably and where necessary concisely in many different forms remains a key skill and our curriculum exploits every opportunity to develop this ability.

Our work through all the curriculum subjects provides opportunities for children to:

- develop a rich and varied vocabulary
- use a range of different words and vocabulary linked to a topic
- encounter a variety of books to help to develop a love of reading
- critically evaluate what they read
- read to inform learning
- speak with confidence and fluency in a variety of situations
- discuss opinions
- justify opinions and give reasons for them
- listen to others and respond appropriately
- agree and disagree with others respectfully
- present information for different audiences

### **Knowledgeable and Reflective Learners**

St Anne's children will work hard and will understand the role of knowledge has in learning about the world. They understand the considerable value of knowledge and apply it to their learning. They work hard to remember what has been taught and use that to deepen their understanding across the curriculum.

The curriculum provides opportunities for children to:

- become free thinkers and act powerfully
- ask and generate questions
- seek, evaluate and critique knowledge
- challenge ideas and concepts
- promote optimism and determination as a learning behaviour
- raise aspirations to broaden our children's horizons
- evaluate their strengths and limitations as learners
- review their work and act on outcomes
- set themselves realistic goals and criteria for success
- monitor their own performance and progress
- invite feedback and deal positively with praise, setbacks and criticism
- make changes to improve their learning
- communicate their learning in relevant ways to different audiences

### **World Citizens**

We believe our children need to develop an understanding about where they live and the wider world. Through learning about the world, we want them to understand their role in society and develop respect towards the environment, communities and religions. At St. Anne's we are stewards of God's creation; we recognise that our world is God's gift to everyone. They will develop as well-rounded citizens with a clear understanding of values such as love, responsibility and friendship. They will explore negative stereotyping through investigating similarities and differences, and promote acceptance, diversity, citizenship and human rights.

We aim to do this by:

- utilising our local area, and its people in our curriculum
- participating in the local and global community and being a beacon for others
- promoting cultural awareness and celebrating diversity
- relating learning to real life contexts
- investigating the impact of important individuals in our world
- environmental awareness
- growing plants and vegetables and understanding sustainability
- take ownership in ensuring the environment in school and the local area is taken care of
- having awareness of major world news and events.
- being charitable to causes which they feel affected by or empathy for
- encouraging pupils to be effective, competent and empowered learners who respect one another and themselves by giving opportunities to engage actively in the life of the school

### **Healthy Advocates**

It is important to us that all members of our school community are healthy - physically and mentally. Throughout life, our children will face many difficult challenges and need to have the mental and physical strength to be successful and happy.

The regular outdoor learning opportunities, the wide range of extra-curricular clubs and our nurturing school ethos, all contribute to the children's wellbeing. We aim to develop confident, self-assured children who are able to make responsible choices for their own health and wellbeing.

For children to have a strong sense of self-belief and positive self-esteem, staff will provide opportunities and teach the children to:

- know how to keep themselves safe and know those who can help when it is needed
- promote a strong anti-bullying culture
- try new foods, activities and experiences
- acquire the ability to maintain a physically active lifestyle and understand the importance of this on promoting long-term health and wellbeing
- fully understand the nutritional value of food and why we should have a healthy balanced diet
- meet up with others, in school and locally, who share interests in a safe environment
- work hard and reflect on how effort and commitment leads to success
- develop and understand techniques and methods that aid concentration
- develop their expertise and deepen their interests
- push past fears and reflect upon the emotions felt afterwards with the support and encouragement and advice from others