

St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School

Curriculum Statement

Curriculum Intent

At St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School we offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced and promotes a positive attitude to life-long learning. It builds on the knowledge, conceptual understanding and skills of all children, whatever their starting points, as they progress through each Key Stage in readiness for their next stage of education.

The knowledge of our children and the coastal community in which they live have shaped what we believe is an exciting, innovative and creative curriculum, providing equality of opportunities to counter relative disadvantage/different starting points and meeting the needs of **all** our learners. Our curriculum has high expectations to combine transferable skills, demonstrate a breadth of vocabulary and develop strong cross curricular links. Inviting classroom environments stimulate and engage quality thinking and reasoning.

We offer a range of lunchtime and after school clubs, plus a range of additional curriculum events which further extend our children's learning opportunities.

We believe our children possess unique talents, skills and qualities. As such, they have the right to succeed, the right to recognise their own greatness and the right to develop who they are in a respectful and nurturing environment. Our school ethos is firmly rooted in our values with a love of learning being the foundation of everything we do.

Our Curriculum:

- Has an uncompromising focus on the development and application of **reading, writing and mathematics skills**
- **Balances academic success with wider attributes** such as creativity, responsibility, resilience, independence & working collaboratively, as well as physical development, well-being and mental health supporting the development of the whole child
- Plays a major role in developing our children's **love and passion for learning** using Hooks and Celebrations as motivational tools
- Develops the ability to **think independently**
- Promotes our **Core Gospel and Learning Values**
- Develops a **Growth Mindset** which is highly supportive to the children as learners: providing them with valuable tools for the future
- Celebrates **equity and diversity** supporting the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Enables our children to develop an understanding of the **wider world**, their place within it and how they will make a positive difference.
- Develops **children as leaders** by valuing children's voices and individual contributions and offering a range of opportunities to develop their leadership skills e.g. roles of Head Boy & Head Girl; Prefects; Schools Council; the Eco Committee; Playground Leaders ; Sports Leaders; Librarians; Digital Leaders and through responsibilities given in their class.

In order to empower excellence in children, we believe that we need to work in partnership with parents and the community to achieve this. Parents, stakeholders and community members are invited regularly into our school to celebrate the children's work. We also engage local and wider community members as 'experts' to support thematic learning experiences; this provides the children with a meaningful audience and also celebrates with the wider school family the excellence that has been achieved.

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Curriculum Implementation

Our carefully crafted curriculum balances the national expectations and an all-encompassing range of experiences allowing our children to flourish. It is designed as a 4 year rolling programme to complement the class structure we operate from Reception to Year 6. Our whole school curriculum map ensures that the curriculum has sufficient depth and coverage of knowledge in all subjects and ensures pupils' progression in knowledge and skills. In the mornings our focus is on the Core Subjects of English, Maths and RE. In the afternoon sessions we organise the different subjects to deliver a 'theme' based approach which we call a 'Learning Experience'. Some subjects will be taught discretely and others will be linked through our 'Learning Experiences'.

Curriculum content includes the areas specified in the National Curriculum, providing a base for an education that ensures quality and progression and assessment is used to shape future learning. Using the National Curriculum as our starting point, we plan Learning Experiences for our children which are engaging, often set in a real-life context, giving them the opportunity to work with a range of 'experts' and to participate in a range of visits.

Clear strategic and multi-level planning allows the curriculum to be dynamic and adapt to the context of the school and children's needs with 'S' Plans and KWL Grids being used as part of our Assessment for Learning processes. Age related expectations combine the acquisition of knowledge and development of skills to create a purposeful and exciting learning journey for every child.

Curriculum Impact

Our **whole school team** strengthen our ethos and vision as we work together to reflect upon our curriculum and share outcomes driving forward next steps.

It is the **class teachers** and **TAs'** responsibility to ensure that classroom practice and subject delivery matches our strategic intentions. Senior leaders rigorously check implementation & review the curriculum using triangulated monitoring throughout the year to gauge the impact of the curriculum design.

Subject Leaders monitor individual subjects: reviewing learning, evaluating pupil voice, providing individual feedback to move practice forward, celebrating positives and highlighting areas of development.

Senior Leaders rigorously check implementation and review the curriculum using triangulated monitoring throughout the year to gauge the impact of our curriculum model

Subject Leaders and **Senior Leaders** will collectively carry out performance analysis, which is linked to this triangulated monitoring, measuring performance against individual and school targets which are reviewed regularly.

Governors, as part of their overall school scrutiny, monitor curriculum progress and impact via Headteacher Reports, SIP Progress Reviews and their link Portfolio Visits.

Our monitoring of impact approaches are rooted in ensuring that our **9 key curriculum intentions** are at the forefront of our planning, delivery and children's experience of their learning journey with St Margaret Clitherow.