

## **St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School**

### **Curriculum Statement**

Our school curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning, personal growth and development. It includes both the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and any other learning opportunities organised by the school e.g. educational visits and experiences, themed days and extra-curricular activities, designed to enrich the experiences of our pupils. We also believe that all children can learn from the Christian values that are at the heart of our school ethos, by the way they are treated and cared for, and how they are expected to behave in school.

Our *Mission Statement* is at the heart of our school curriculum at St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School.

*"We aim to provide a positive learning experience in a safe and respectful environment. We strive to teach an inspiring and inclusive curriculum that promotes a love of learning. As a Christian school, we endeavour to develop the spiritual and moral values of all members of the St. Matthew's family, and a meaningful and loving relationship with God. We want our children to be cheerful, independent individuals who reach their potential and are proud of their achievements. We hope to develop confident, caring citizens who are well prepared to enjoy happy and rewarding lives."*

### **Our Curriculum**

#### **Curriculum Intent**

At St. Matthew's, we aim to provide a broad and balanced, vocabulary and language rich curriculum that meets the diverse needs of our children. We strive to teach an inspiring and inclusive curriculum that promotes a love of learning that endures beyond primary schooling. Each subject is underpinned by current research and ensures that our children will be well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the next stage of their education. Each subject's curriculum intent promotes the demonstration of compassion, integrity and a pursuit of excellence in order for our children to reach their potential. Our curriculum fosters an ambition for our children to ignite their curiosity, deepen their understanding and develop respect for the world around them.

We are highly ambitious for all of our children, irrespective of their background or academic starting points. Our disadvantaged children and those with special educational needs and disabilities are provided with a rich, relevant curriculum that, where possible, matches that of their peers. Our curriculum is not narrowed as children get older. All children throughout the school receive a broad and balanced curriculum aimed at improving their knowledge and skills in a progressive manner. We aim to make every lesson count.

We want our children to be healthy, resilient and independent individuals who respond well to challenge and reach their potential. We encourage our children to develop their confidence, feel proud of their achievements and embrace opportunities to help, encourage and support the learning and development of others. We hope that our children's spiritual and moral character reflects the Christian values that are central to our whole school curriculum.

### **Curriculum Implementation**

Our curriculum meets the statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), National Curriculum and locally agreed Religious Education syllabus. Children are encouraged to:

- Develop their academic abilities to the highest possible level, ensuring they are well prepared for the next stage of their education.
- Appreciate British, ethical, moral and aesthetic values.
- Develop lively, enquiring minds with an ability to both reason and question.
- Become resourceful and independent with a positive attitude towards learning.
- Develop an understanding of the world and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life.
- Become confident, caring citizens who are able to contribute to society.

St. Matthew's curriculum has been designed to focus on appropriate subject specific knowledge, skills and understanding. Children work towards acquiring a depth of learning over time and an ability to make meaningful learning links. Teachers carefully plan series of either theme based or discreet lessons that are both inclusive and challenging. They endeavour to provide as many opportunities as possible for children to develop their spoken language, long term memory, reasoning skills and independence. Children benefit from strong relationships with staff who engage in regular, quality feedback for learning and behaviour.

We believe that our ambitious curriculum is delivered by staff with excellent subject knowledge. Our subject leaders are aware of the latest research available to improve the quality of delivery of their subject. They monitor the quality of education in their subject regularly and judiciously. This allows them to provide teachers with the support and challenge necessary to continue to improve. All staff are very clear about what our children should achieve in each subject at the end of each year. Formative and summative assessment ensure that staff have the information they need to support and challenge children as needed.

Learning and knowledge is enhanced through high quality resources, educational visits, themed days, exhibitions and community links. Our curriculum is delivered through high quality teaching, learning and assessment experiences for children, by skilful and committed staff. Effective learning characteristics such as collaboration, imagination and reflection drive teaching, learning, personal growth and development.

## **Curriculum Impact**

Our children are well behaved, happy and caring individuals who understand they are a valued member of God's family at St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School. They recognise and celebrate their own unique personality, character, talents and skills, and that of others. Our children progress well through each of stage of their education from their individual starting points, building on prior knowledge, skills and understanding. High quality teaching and learning ensures our children learn more and remember more, and demonstrate enthusiasm and resilience.

Teachers ensure that all curriculum areas have appropriate structure, progression, vocabulary and assessment. All leaders are involved in monitoring curriculum impact to continually improve standards and achieve the very best for our children.

By ensuring that our children attain the skills and knowledge expected in all subjects at the end of each year we know that they are well prepared for their next stage of education, academically, socially and personally. Our children moving from Year 6 to Year 7 know they have the skills and knowledge to cope with this important transition. Similarly, we aim to develop in them the personal qualities that will support them in secondary education.