

# **St Joseph's School Curriculum**

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through

**Faith, Hope, Love**

## **What is a curriculum?**

The curriculum is a framework for setting out the aims of a programme of education, including the knowledge and understanding to be gained at each stage (INTENT); for translating that framework over time into a structure and narrative, within an institutional context (IMPLEMENTATION) and for evaluating what knowledge and understanding pupils have gained against expectations (IMPACT/ACHIEVEMENT)

Ofsted 2018

## **St Joseph's School Curriculum 2018**

### **Intent**

Our thoughtfully crafted curriculum is built upon a progression of knowledge from Reception to Year 6 that are is planned sequentially over time. This is continuously reviewed, refined and adapted (by class teachers and subject leads) to ensure that the curriculum meets the diverse needs of ALL of our children.

Our curriculum is based on the core values of 'Inspiring everyone to REACH (Resilience, Empathy, Aspirational, Challenged, High expectations) through faith, hope, love' where reaching for excellence is at the heart of all that we do.

The curriculum is intended to develop a rich body of knowledge in each child, providing them with the opportunity to master key concepts, creating aspiring geographers, historians, musicians, authors and scientists of the future.

However, whilst using the National Curriculum as a benchmark, our children have told us what interests them and what they wish to learn about. We have therefore embedded this in our REACH Friday's, providing them with additional life-skills whilst enriching their core learning. As a result, the children gain further knowledge and skills which are transferable and can be applied across the curriculum.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Our curriculum is delivered through either whole school or year group topics. All learning is carefully planned so that progressive knowledge is a key component. Skills are integral in the children's learning as both skills and knowledge are closely linked.

As a school, we are moving away from planning for hourly lessons to planning for a learning journey. This means that there is more flexibility in the weekly timetable, asides where there is cross phase teaching (in phonics, spelling and grammar for example).

Our new and exciting REACH Fridays reinforce knowledge and provides opportunities to develop 'life skills.' Based on feedback from our children, REACH Fridays currently include:

- debating and public speaking whilst developing tolerance and understanding;
- exploring 'what's in the news?';
- charity work and helping others in our community and beyond;
- mindfulness and well-being;
- gardening/growing; and
- outdoor learning.

Fluency in Maths and English, with regular opportunities to revisit learning, ensures that children's working memory is not overloaded and knowledge is deepened as a result.

## **IMPACT**

This broad, rich, diverse and exciting curriculum is in the second year. It is being rigorously monitored and reviewed by the school leaders.

Governors have established a strategy group to work alongside the school leadership team and subject leads to monitor how the intent of the curriculum is reflected in the day to day teachings at St Joseph's.

The impact of this unique curriculum will be analysed four times per year in line with the schools current assessment system.