

Our Curriculum at St Michael's CE (VC) First School

Intent

At St Michael's we believe that the school's curriculum encompasses every opportunity that a child experiences within our school, these are both meaningful and memorable. We allow every child to access a broad and balanced curriculum, to develop their knowledge and skills alongside their personal and social development to enable them to flourish and achieve their very best.

'Through God we love, laugh and learn' is at the heart of our curriculum. The curriculum is designed to allow children to develop as individuals, build on their knowledge and skills, experience a wide range of opportunities and develop the skills to work collaboratively. Children develop as lifelong learners and we foster a love of learning from a very early age, equipping children with the skills they will need in later life. Learning is active, engaging and develops the children as critical thinkers.

Coherently planned lesson sequences ensure progression of knowledge and skills within the year and throughout the years. Meaningful links are made within and across subjects, enabling them to embed prior learning, think more deeply and make connections. A balance of discreet subject lessons and cross curricular opportunities allow for a curriculum that is thought provoking, relevant and exciting.

St Michael's is an inclusive school and our curriculum matches this ethos we recognise that all children are individuals and learning is tailored to meet their individual needs. All groups of children, including those with SEND and Pupil Premium, access the curriculum and we have high aspirations for them all.

Learning outside of the classroom is part of our learning culture with links to our local area supporting curriculum development and developing the children's own sense of place and community. We recognise that our children are the citizens of the future and as such our curriculum allows them to develop a greater awareness of their local area, global issues and their place within our world.

IMPLEMENTATION

Our curriculum ensures that all children have access to a curriculum that not only fulfils the requirements of the National Curriculum but also a range of experiences and learning opportunities that allow them to broaden their life experiences.

Lessons are planned to ensure clear progression throughout the year, across key stages and the school as a whole. Planning allows children the opportunities to apply previously learned skills and make links within their learning to secure understanding and strengthen knowledge.

Teachers plan and tailor units of work to recognise the needs of the cohort of children and ensure that every child can reach their full potential.

Enrichment days and weeks are carefully planned and structured to support and enhance the National Curriculum, place learning into real life contexts and create a 'buzz of learning excitement'.

As a school we recognise the importance of the natural world to our children both to support their learning and aid mental health and well being. Outdoor learning is planned within all areas of the curriculum, from Forest school lessons for children in the Foundation stage to outdoor learning interwoven across the curriculum for all year groups.

IMPACT

Children will leave St Michaels as confident individuals with a love of learning. The curriculum that they have had access to will inspire them with a thirst for knowledge and the confidence to show their understanding.

During their time within the school they will have developed a secure knowledge base on which to build and have the ability to make links in their learning.

Through the experience that they have had the opportunity to undertake, they will be equipped to make the right choices and display our school values. This twin track approach of academic success alongside social development will equip them for the next step in their educational development and to become citizens of the future.