



Curriculum Intent Statement

'Following in Jesus' footsteps, we learn, we grow, we love...'

Believe - Achieve - Succeed

The aim of Our Lady's Catholic Primary School is to provide opportunities for children to develop as independent, resilient, confident and successful learners with high aspirations; children who know how to make a positive contribution to their local community and the wider society. We ensure that all of our pupils' respect each other and have respect for people of all faiths, race and gender. Everyone has the right to be treated with both respect and dignity. Hence there is a strong focus on developing children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding. Through the above, Our Lady's Catholic Primary School ensures that children are well prepared for life in modern Britain and to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

As a Catholic school we work hard to live up to our Christian mission statement and follow in the ways Jesus taught us so that we can learn, play, work, and grow in love and harmony together. We want everyone at our school to feel happy, confident and safe. We want learning to be fun and exciting and we want our teaching to inspire and encourage children and adults so that they enjoy their time at school. We expect all the adults and children in our school community to uphold the Our Lady's values and appreciate our school family.

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School endeavours to provide an inclusive environment where learners enjoy their education. Pupils at all levels are through this helped to achieve their potential. Those who are most able are challenged, by being encouraged to expand their skills and knowledge through varied curriculum opportunities. Those who find learning more difficult are encouraged and given targeted support to embed skills in order to support them to develop at their own pace and to learn in a style that best suits their individual needs. This gives the clear message that "all are welcome and all can and will achieve."

Our focus on curriculum development is always carefully designed to ensure coverage, impact and progression. It provides pupils with memorable experiences, in addition to diverse and rich opportunities from which they can learn and develop a range of transferable skills. The key focus of our curriculum is to raise aspirations, engender a sense of personal pride in achievement, provide a purpose and relevance for learning and ultimately to help every student to find strengths and interests. Reading and a love of books is an essential part of this curriculum. Reading is given a high priority as it the ability to read and understand which opens up learning for children. We believe the development of children's vocabulary is a vital tool in learning and understanding the full curriculum, which is why our English, Science and History/Geography often have a book-led approach.

Becoming fluent readers and developing a love of books is an essential component underpinning what we provide. Reading skills are given a high priority in our curriculum as is the ability to read with comprehension; so opening up learning for our children. We are committed to supporting the development of children's vocabulary from the earliest age. We see this is a vital component in their learning and understanding journey.

Sport has a high profile within our provision. Children at Our Lady's Catholic Primary School are introduced to a huge variety of activities. Traditional sports such as netball and football are complemented by cricket, athletics, tag rugby, dance, gymnastics, dodgeball and swimming sessions. We also aim to provide a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, such as football, karate and Irish dancing to maximise our pupils opportunities in this area. Giving sport and games a strong focus has greatly helped to engage so many

children including children with SEND. It has increased children's self-confidence as well being utilised to teach life skills such as teamwork, determination, courage, perseverance and acceptance of winning/losing.

The school provides a range and variety of quality opportunities in the arts including music and drama, for students to develop and share their creative talents. We strive to promote music within our school including weekly singing assemblies, music lessons and enhancing our curriculum with gospel and keyboard sessions.

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School provides the full core offer of extended school provision. To promote physical health and wellbeing, as well as increasing a love and curiosity of a range of topics, a wide variety of clubs both after school hours and during lunch times are offered including netball, tag rugby, cricket, science, Art & D.T., mindfulness, phonics and story time.

We are aware that technology is an essential part of life and therefore ensure all of our pupils experience a wide range digital experiences. With technology playing such a significant role in society today, being technologically literate is an area in which children must become competent if they are to be able to participate effectively and safely in the digital world. As a key part of this we aim to offer a high-quality computing education to equip children to use their vision, skills and creativity to understand and change the world. We additionally plan to expose our children to different systems and ways of working, such as our use of iPads, Chromebooks and Google Drive.

Enjoyment of the curriculum promotes belief, courage, resilience, achievement, confidence and good behaviour. Subject leaders play an important part in the success of the curriculum by leading a regular programme of monitoring, evaluation and review. The curriculum design ensures that the needs of individual and small groups of children can be met within the environment of high-quality teaching, supported by targeted, proven interventions where appropriate. In this way, it can impact in a very positive way on pupil outcomes such as enabling children feel safe to try new things. High quality visits and visitors into Our Lady's are well designed to enhance the curriculum.

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