




St. Matthew's
Church of England Primary School

Adopted: September 2021
Review date: September 2022

CURRICULUM POLICY

Vision, Mission & Values

 St. Matthew's CE Primary School	
Vision	Core Values The way we do things around here
Outstanding in everything we do	We aim high - We are aspirational for our children, our school and ourselves
Mission The St. Matthew's Way	We encourage - We build people up, we recognise the value of the whole school family
High educational expectations within a caring Christian Community so our children have successful futures.	We have faith - We have the courage to take risks and try new things knowing that this is a safe place and we have faith that God has great plans for our school and the individuals in it We do all this in a culture of respect

Our Curriculum

At St Matthew's Church of England Primary School the curriculum is designed to engage, inspire, motivate and challenge our pupils. It allows the pupils to:

- develop their interests in the world around them
- develop their love of learning
- build resilience
- become creative, critical thinkers
- apply their skills and knowledge to a range of contexts

Our Vision, Mission and Values

At St Matthew's we aim to be outstanding in everything we do. We have high educational expectations in a caring Christian community so all our children have successful futures.

Aim high * Encourage * Have faith

These values are applicable in all that we do and particularly when designing our curriculum. We aim high for our children and want them to be aspirational for themselves so that they can have successful futures, confident to work hard and have opportunities to try things they may not have tried before.

We are an inclusive school and, as such, ensure all pupils have access to all areas of the curriculum. A range of approaches and resources, including staffing, are used to support children with specific needs including SEND, EAL. Provision is made for gifted and talented pupils through enrichment and extension activities within daily classroom lessons, more able groups with specialist teachers and additional activities.

The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values. We are proud of the enhancement opportunities we provide to supplement learning and engage children in their learning. We believe it is our role to develop children's thirst for learning and knowledge and to provide them with experiences they wouldn't otherwise have.

Our children show great resilience and a growth mindset. The three star challenge differentiation approach we use and the sharing of targets and expected outcomes increases children's responsibility for their learning.

Community involvement is an essential part of our curriculum as we celebrate local and national festivals and traditions, learning new skills to enable the children to take an active role in events throughout the year. We have strong partnerships with local community organisations including: St Matthew's Church, Redhill library, The Harlequin Theatre, Donyngs Sports Centre, Redhill Tennis club, Diamond Riding Centre & Redhill West Partnership Network. Through our partnership with Southwark Diocesan Board of Educations and our Multi-Academy Trust we have links with other schools and a range of wider opportunities.

Children leave St Matthew's School confident having been part of a close school community where they are well known and their gifts and talents are celebrated. They leave St Matthew's confident to try new things and with the resilience to tackle challenges head on.

Curriculum Implementation and Outcomes

Our curriculum engages different learning styles using a variety of resources including:

- Early Years Outcomes
- National Curriculum Statutory Guidance
- White Rose Maths resources, NSTEM, NRICH
- Literacy Tree writing resources
- Literacy Leaves reading resources
- Charanga music resources
- Southwark Diocesan Board of Education RE units and Understanding Christianity resources

- Outdoor Learning, including Forest School, and enhancement opportunities which support teaching of the curriculum

Assessment for Learning

The school has recognised the use of clear, focused learning intentions and success criteria as an effective tool in gaining intended learning outcomes.

Pupils are active in choosing their learning activities, identifying their achievements and recognising their next steps.

Staff have had training to use effective questioning techniques to develop higher order thinking skills and the school has worked to develop questions for lessons using Blooms taxonomy.

Lessons teach skills and knowledge but always strive to have an engaging context that demonstrates the purpose of the learning.

Subject Leaders

Subject leaders oversee, develop, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their subject within school across all year groups and phases. Staff are committed to delivering high quality learning experiences throughout the curriculum.

Each subject leader ensures that there is appropriate curriculum coverage of SMSC and Fundamental British Values to promote growth mindset, confidence, challenge, opportunities to learn from mistakes, opportunities to learn about safety, personal care and wellbeing, independence for life in the modern world.

Outdoor Learning

At St Matthew's we pride ourselves on taking children outside the classroom to make learning more relevant to their lives in our spacious school ground, the community and wider world. We encourage children to be responsible for and respect the local community and environment giving them a sense of belonging and ownership of the place in which they live. We explore the uses of the local area, integrating subjects so that meaningful activities can be planned and delivered effectively and regularly.

Visits and Visitors

In the curriculum we recognise that children's learning is enhanced by different experiences. We offer children a wide range of educational visits which are used to motivate and engage learning which improves retention.

Regular visitors to school give the children another perspective on values, attitudes, learning and understanding. These include charities, people from different professions, the church and the community.

Extended Day

We consider lunchtimes, break times and before and after school clubs to be an extension of the curriculum. Children have the opportunity to practise the transferable skills they have learnt during lessons. Structured play, open opportunities and social activities are provided children are encouraged to think creatively, apply their understanding in individual ways to be able to draw upon their own experiences and to be imaginative during play.

Curriculum Impact

The impact of the curriculum is evident in the outcomes for all pupils and in the progress they make (data and as individuals in relation to their contexts and starting points) whilst in our care.