

Federation of St Cuthbert's and St Sebastian's Curriculum -VISION

At the Federation of St Cuthbert's and St Sebastian's, we carefully design, plan and implement a curriculum which reflects and embraces our whole school vision :

The ethos of our school is a crucial element in the delivery of an effective curriculum. Our faith and Gospel values of love and forgiveness, are at the heart of our ethos. Our Catholic school is essentially a community of faith, working in partnership with home and parish.

As an inclusive school, we value how our every pupil is unique. Our aspirations for every pupil is extremely high.

We recognise that pupils learn best when they feel happy, safe and secure. Within a supportive, nurturing school environment, our carefully designed curriculum , stimulates our pupils' curiosity and enthusiasm, making learning "come alive "through a broad and rich programme of study, activities, events and learning experiences outside the classroom.

We are committed to achieving academic excellence in all areas of the curriculum.

Our curriculum is built around a pedagogy of worth, spirit and contribution.

We aim to care for and educate the whole child, developing well-rounded school citizens, healthy in mind, body and spirit who aspire to be the very best and achieve the very best possible.

The key aims of our curriculum are :

- To assist our pupils in their response to God in faith, and to nurture their faith in a community.
- To have clear focus on learning and high quality teaching of knowledge, skills and understanding throughout the curriculum
- To be respectful of the communities in which our pupils live and have an awareness of their own and other religious and spiritual development.
- To strongly promote self-respect for all in our school irrespective of race, creed or gender. Care will be taken to ensure that resources do not present stereo-typical images, rather role models from diverse backgrounds and cultures reflecting the multi-ethnic nature of our society
- To provide an ambitious, coherently planned curriculum, designed to give all learners the knowledge, skills, understanding and cultural capital they need for future learning and to succeed in life.
- To enable children to be creative and to develop their own thinking;
- To help children understand the importance of justice, truth and fairness, so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all.
- To provide opportunities for meaningful enrichment experiences across the curriculum to strengthen and deepen learning.

- To promote independent learning and global citizenship, enabling children to grow into successful, informed and responsible citizens and effective contributors
- To encourage our pupils to share responsibility for their progress with school and their families
- To provide real contexts for learning to enhance further learning of the world around them, where they may be ambitious for themselves.
- To encourage resilience and lifelong learning
- To make learning fun
- To fulfill all the requirements of the National Curriculum.

At the Federation of St Cuthbert's and St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School, careful analysis and discussion about our pupils' backgrounds, life experiences and cultures has helped us to design our curriculum. We believe that by focusing on the following key priorities our children will be ready to successfully meet the challenges of the next stage of their education and their lives.

Our curriculum priorities are:

1. ***Aspirations*** – *We aim to provide a wealth of experiences which show pupils the wide range of possibilities available for their future. Our pupils must believe that anything is possible.*
2. ***The Whole Child*** – *Our extended, enhanced curriculum, for the “whole child” builds our pupils’ cultural capital and supports them greatly in accessing a truly broad and balanced curriculum.*
3. ***Knowledge, understanding and skills*** – *We aim to provide a knowledge based full curriculum, ambitious in its content for all learners*
4. **A language rich curriculum** –Language acquisition is key to enhancing and furthering our pupils’ knowledge and their access to the curriculum. A great many of our pupils begin school life with poor speaking and listening skills. Their need to be exposed to the power of language is great. Our pupils must experience an ongoing appreciation and joy for the spoken and written word.
5. **Reading** – A reading rich curriculum –with emphasis on text based learning. KS1 to further prioritise reading, writing and use mathematical knowledge so that they are able to access a broad and balanced curriculum at KS2 curriculum. All should continually experience the joy of narrative.
6. **Basic Skills**- It is important that all our pupils progress well in the basic skills of reading, writing, grammar and number so that all may access a full curriculum

7. **Initiative & Problem Solving**- We aim to offer experiences which help our pupils become independent and resourceful learners. Pupils will acquire a vast range of transferrable skills, to enhance and further their learning across a spectrum of subjects
8. **Citizenship & Environment** – We aim to provide extensive experiences which help our pupils value their roles and responsibilities as Catholic citizens towards sustaining their local and global environment.
9. **Creativity** – We aim to provide a varied curriculum where learning is fun and our pupils learn to celebrate the arts and creative thinking in all their forms
10. **Challenge** – We aim that **all** our pupils experience and embrace levels of challenge and risk taking, applying this to all elements of the curriculum – sports, arts, academic learning in all subjects.

We have designed and planned our curriculum to offer a range of experiences which contribute to every pupil receiving a full and rich curriculum. The range of experiences we offer support and champion our ethos and aims, ensuring that our pupils benefit from a full range of academic, spiritual, moral, social and cultural activities. These activities enrich their lives and those of our whole school community, making them proud of their British values (democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs) and the diverse society to which they belong and play an active part. Our broad and balanced curriculum inspires our pupils to learn. This promotion of British values, and pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are at the heart of our work. We promote equality of opportunity and diversity so that our ethos and culture prevents any form of discrimination

We are proud that our curriculum gives our children the skills, confidence and self-belief to lead a happy and fulfilled life by encouraging them to aim high and work towards their goals and dreams in life.

In order to achieve this we work together with parents, partners, the parish and wider community.

The Christian Values are embedded in a rich, broad and balanced curriculum. We provide a curriculum which is fun, exciting, challenging, dynamic and relevant to our children.

It is our underlying belief that every child should feel valued and experience the feeling of success in a wide range of curriculum areas. We believe that through our curriculum, we can positively impact on what is in our pupils' feelings of self worth and self belief. This way, our pupils can feel more confident and ready to tackle any challenge they may face.

We are committed to challenging our pupils with our emphasis on the arts, on sports, performance, music and as such, offer an extensive extra curricula timetable.

At the Federation of St Cuthbert's and St Sebastian's we place high priority on ensuring children's physical and mental wellbeing are met. We understand that children will not be successful learners unless they are emotionally secure, therefore we carefully design our curriculum and adopt a flexible approach to timetabling to ensure that we can meet and respond to any issues which may arise. Children's physical and mental wellbeing are as valued and important as academic development.