



But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded ~ 2 Chronicles 15:7

Curriculum Policy



**Weston St Mary
CE Primary School**

Reviewed by:	Date:	Changes made:
LB	March 2021	New policy

Schools serving their communities through excellence, exploration and encouragement within the love of God

I can do all things through him who strengthens me ~ Philippians 4:13

Content, Provision and Approach

Rationale

At Weston St Mary CE Primary, we believe that all children are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which is exciting, engaging and provides a range of learning opportunities that help develop children's life-long love of learning.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary our curriculum is planned to ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop:

- Socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically, spiritually, morally, culturally.
- Positive attitudes, healthy relationships and essential life and work skills.
- The ability to make informed choices, gaining experiences and developing responsibilities for their future.

Aims

- Enable all children to reach high standards of attainment.
- Set challenging expectations of educational standards and achievement, acknowledging and challenging disadvantage and discrimination in all forms.
- Increase children's motivation, enthusiasm and engagement in their learning by making learning exciting and meaningful through putting it into a context.
- Value individuals and communities.
- Help children to become more independent and take greater ownership of their learning.
- Develop their confidence and motivation to learn through the use of a range of teaching and learning styles.
- Acknowledge specific individual needs and meet them as far as possible with available resources.
- Provide wide and varied education experiences, which are based on the Foundation Stage Curriculum, the Key Stage 1 and 2 National Curriculum.
- Enable pupils to receive an education that will serve them well beyond their primary school experience.
- Provide opportunities to apply knowledge and learning in practical ways and to solve problems in a variety of situations.

Implementation of Policy

I can do all things through him who strengthens me ~ Philippians 4:13

The Connections Curriculum

At Weston St Mary CE Primary in order to engage, inspire and motivate we actively seek out opportunities to make the learning more meaningful for the pupils. This is achieved in a number of ways, including:

- Making links across subjects through Connections topics.
- Identifying areas of interest to capture pupils' curiosity.
- Using a range of teaching styles to encompass the different learners within the classroom.
- Planning themed weeks to encourage creativity and innovation.
- Incorporating local and national initiatives.
- Working with other schools and the local community.

Teaching and Learning

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we use a variety of teaching styles to ensure that every child makes the optimum amount of progress and to ensure that all learning styles are catered for in lessons.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we recognise that children have preferred learning styles, and so make allowances for this in our planning and delivery.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability and learning style of the children.

We achieve this in a variety of ways by:

- Setting common, open ended tasks to elicit a variety and depth of response.
- Grouping children by ability in the room and setting tasks of increasing difficulty, scaffolding where appropriate.
- Providing differentiated learning opportunities linked to cognitive domains (thinking skills).
- Providing practical opportunities for kinaesthetic learners.
- Using visual stimuli and artefacts to promote interest.
- Using adults to support the work of individual children or groups of children.
- Using trips and visitors to further understanding.
- Group work to allow collaboration and develop thinking skills.

Enhancing the Teaching and Learning

- At Weston St Mary CE Primary teaching staff are encouraged to capture children's interest and broaden their experiences through using trips and visitors in school.
- Topics are further enhanced with "Wow!" experiences which are embedded within Connections topic planning, providing pupils with opportunities to contextualise learning.
- Children's achievements are celebrated regularly through Curriculum Newsletters, displays in classrooms and shared areas around the school and during school assemblies.
- The school also engages in Whole School 'Theme Weeks' which are planned throughout the academic year.

Key Skills

Weston St Mary CE Primary School believes that all children need to make good progress in these skill areas in order to develop their true potential.

The following skills have been deemed 'key skills' in the revised National Curriculum and are taught across every curriculum subject:

- Communication
- Application of number
- Information technology
- Working with others
- Improving own learning and performance
- Problem-solving
- Independent thinking

Planning

At Weston St Mary CE Primary learning takes place through a 'topic' approach to make learning meaningful and put things into context, via our Connections planning.

Teacher plan alongside their colleagues across key age phases, along with affiliated schools, in order to create termly Connections plans, matched to the needs and interests of our pupils.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary every topic includes a 'Wow experience' to enrich the children's learning in the topic.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we plan our curriculum in three phases.

Planning takes place at a variety of levels:

- Long term plans
- Medium term plans
- Short term plans

Long Term Planning

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we agree a long-term plan for each key stage. This indicates what topics are to be taught in term.

Teachers refer to documents detailing the National Curriculum Programmes of Study and Chris Quigley's Essentials Curriculum to inform planning. Records are kept to ensure coverage and progression occurs.

Curriculum frameworks are shared with parents to inform them of the learning that their child will experience that term and are displayed on the class pages of the school's website.

Medium Term Plans

At Weston St Mary CE Primary our medium term plans give guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies that we use when teaching each topic.

Teachers identify units of work to be covered in Literacy and Numeracy, and plan their time allocation and sequence.

For Foundation Subjects, teachers plan with colleagues their Connections topic work to be covered during that term, linked to key objectives identified within the long term planning framework.

The following curriculum documentation supports planning:

- Detailed units of work
- Literacy Framework
- Numeracy Framework
- Subject progression documentation
- Chris Quigley's Essentials Curriculum resources

Short Term Weekly Planning

At Weston St Mary CE Primary planning documents are produced for Literacy, Numeracy and Foundation subjects, using the standard school format.

I can do all things through him who strengthens me ~ Philippians 4:13

The weekly planning includes:

- Specific learning goals and learning outcomes/success criteria, clearly showing progression in learning and skills across the week - Literacy and Numeracy.
- Foundation subjects as identified within Connections planning.
- Outline teaching input.
- Outline differentiated tasks for groups of children.
- Assessment opportunities

Planning formats also include space for annotation, which teachers use to make assessment notes and show evidence of adapting their planning in response to what happens in the classroom.

Progression and Continuity in the Curriculum

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we ensure progression and continuity in the curriculum by:

- Use of planning documentation.
- Dividing up and organising NC Programmes of Study.
- Subject co-coordinators have overview of whole school planning for their subject.
- Regular discussion in planning teams to review planning and discuss standards.
- Assessment for Learning strategies and record keeping are used.
- Moderation of standards achieved in Key Stage teams and whole school/across school agreement trialing.
- Planning in teams to avoid duplication.

Assessment

- Weston St Mary CE Primary has policies for Assessment and Monitoring of the curriculum.
- Children have their own tracking record in Reading, Writing and Numeracy and are assessed against age related expectations.
- Weston St Mary CE Primary has separate tracking records for pupils on the SEN register so progress can be monitored more closely.
- We follow the principles behind 'Assessment for Learning' and encourage children to self/peer evaluate their learning.
- Inherent in our Curriculum are the principles of 'Aspects of Learning'. We aim to promote these principles of motivation, enquiry, problem solving, creative thinking,
I can do all things through him who strengthens me ~ Philipians 4:13

reasoning, evaluating, self awareness, empathy, social skills and communication through the curriculum as a whole.

Reporting on Pupil Attainment

At Weston St Mary CE Primary all work carried out by the children is monitored and evaluated.

- A written school report is made available to parents annually.
- Parents are invited to Parent/Teacher Consultation meetings in the autumn and spring terms.
- The Governing Body receives regular reports on pupil attainment compared to the national picture and similar schools and pupils' prior attainment.

Target Setting

- At Weston St Mary CE Primary all pupils are set 'next learning steps' in their learning through teachers' marking and feedback to pupils.
- The Governing Body sets the statutory targets in the autumn term for those pupils reaching the end of Key Stage 1 and 2 in the following academic year. These targets are set in close consultation with the teaching staff using the evidence from ongoing standards analysis.
- Using the annual early summer assessment levels as a base, end of year targets in Numeracy, Writing and Reading Comprehension are set for each child. Pupils are monitored throughout the year at regular pupil progress meetings, to ensure they are making at least expected personal progress.
- The school maintains comprehensive tracking data for all pupils in Literacy [Reading and Writing] and Maths.

Homework

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we believe topic homework is essential as it supports and extends the children's learning in class. The homework contributes to the overall excitement at the start of every topic. Therefore, the children see a clear purpose in their learning at home.

Children with Special Educational Needs

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we recognise that there will be children who have special needs and we have a firm commitment to inclusive education wherever possible. These children may have a physical disability, cognitive or sensory impairment or be able, gifted and talented children for whom extra provision is required. All children in school have an

entitlement to a full education and we will modify and differentiate the curriculum to ensure access to the curriculum for all children.

Gifted and Talented Children

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we have a commitment to meeting the needs of all children, including those with a high level of ability in one or more areas. It is our responsibility to maximise the skills, strengths and talents in all children, enabling them to reach their full potential. Gifted and talented children are recognised as having particular special needs and the curriculum will be extended to make it challenging and engaging for children who have been identified as being Gifted and Talented.

Monitoring and Review

At Weston St Mary CE Primary *the leadership is held to account by governors Pupils and Provision Committee*. The governors liaise with subject leaders, during the course of governor visits and monitor closely the way the school teaches these subjects.

The Executive Headteacher and Head of School are responsible for the day to day organisation of the curriculum. The EHT/HoS monitor the weekly lesson plans for all teachers, ensuring that all classes are taught the full requirements of the National Curriculum, and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we regularly monitor and compare our school's national tests and exam results against national and local benchmarks, as well as with similar schools.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we are aware of gender difference in our pupils' attainment. We analyse pupils' performance and develop strategies within our curriculum delivery to address imbalances where they occur.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we maintain systems for monitoring pupils' progress to enable us to estimate and predict annual progress and with this information we set targets to challenge and improve pupils' attainment.

At Weston St Mary CE Primary we sample pupils' work and ensure we agree pupils' attainment and evaluate the quality of our teaching and its impact on pupils' attainment and ensure consistency within our school.

Any questions or concerns regarding this policy should be made to the Executive Head Teacher or Head of School.

Review Date: March 2023