



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

Every Child Matters

Church of England Vision for Education

Wisdom, Diversity, Hope, Community



Weston St Mary
CE Primary School

Reviewed by:	Date:	Changes made:
LB	March 2022	No changes
LB	Sept 2020	New Policy

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

Policy For Promoting Fundamental British Values

Our Vision

At Weston St Mary Church of England Primary School, our children have access to a rich and creative curriculum which prepares them for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century and raises aspirations.

We aim to develop pupils as life-long learners within a Christian context. We base all we do around the Parable of the Good Samaritan which tells us that each individual is valued by God, even the troublesome ones who may get lost along the way. We recognise that if each is valued by God, then it is our duty to give each child the very best and to allow each one to flourish. (Matthew 18, Luke 15)

At our school, we provide our children with the knowledge and skills they need in order to succeed within an ever-changing society, helping them to know and remember more. As well as enabling them to develop a depth of knowledge across a range of subjects, we look to nurture within them the ability to think critically, questioning the views of others whilst building, evidencing and articulating their own. Our curriculum was designed to respond to the needs of learners and their interests by enhancing learning experiences and raising awareness from the local area to national and global arenas. Thus, we will develop outward looking pupils who are able to engage in learning about themselves and have an understanding of the wider world and its complex cultures.

Our careful curriculum design and planning means that we build in many opportunities for repetition and practise opportunities for essential knowledge, skills and understanding in every subject. This ensures that children are able to revisit previous learning, which allows them to gradually develop a deeper understanding of the skills and processes within subjects, at their own pace and in the best possible way for each individual child.

By teaching our children to read with fluency, understanding and enthusiasm, we enable them to further their knowledge in areas of their own interest, as well as deepening their understanding of what they have learnt within the classroom and beyond.

Grounded within a philosophical context though the use of 'Big Questions', our Connections curriculum aims to empower pupils from all backgrounds and ethnicities, developing within them the tools they need in order to express themselves verbally, in writing and creatively.

At this school, we place a high priority on ensuring that both children's physical and mental wellbeing are met. These areas are as valued and important as academic development as we understand that children will not be successful learners unless they are emotionally secure. This is supported through our detailed PSHE curriculum (Jigsaw), ELSA as well as our Forest School learning.

Our work and vision is based on our core values of:

- Hope
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Forgiveness
- Courage
- Compassion
- Caring
- Wisdom

We recognise that children are created in the image of God but also value their individuality as they explore their own God given talents and are treated with respect and dignity at all times. We understand that a curriculum is the totality of a child's experience during their entire time at school.

It is not isolated to subjects or viewed solely within small timeframes. It is all encompassing. It is for this reason that our aims (outlined below) extends well beyond the individual subjects, showing our commitment to giving all of our children every opportunity to achieve in all aspects of their life. Our mission statement reflects this.

We believe that our broad and balanced curriculum, underpinned by British and Christian values, plays a major part in delivering excellence, which permeates through every element of school life.

Our Intent- what are the aims and principles of our curriculum?



- Respect
- Personal growth and success
- Spirituality
- Community-local and global

These curriculum drivers feed directly into our curriculum aims. They are derived from an exploration of the backgrounds of our pupils, our beliefs about high-quality education and our values. They are used to ensure we give our pupils appropriate and ambitious curriculum opportunities.

Our aims:

1. To enable children to become happy, secure and enthusiastic life-long learners and achieve personal success/greatness
2. To make children the centre of everything we do, where they are challenged and supported through a broad, balanced and creative curriculum
3. To support children in developing secure skills and knowledge across a broad range of subjects
4. To develop an environment and school ethos where individual needs are respected and diversity celebrated
5. To build a sense of self-worth, personal responsibility and respect for one another
6. To place the school at the heart of local society, encouraging a caring and supportive partnership between children, their families and the wider community

The British Values linked to the Christian Values:

The key Christian beliefs that underpin both Christian Values and British Values are that:

- God is a God of order, and that his world should reflect a sense of purpose, not chaos
- Every person is made in the image of God, known, loved and valued as a unique creation
- Humans are designed to be interdependent, supporting others and being supported, like a body with many parts
- The Bible provides laws to govern human affairs, but these also show up human weakness and the need for forgiveness

In our school, British Values and Christian Values are closely linked. Christian Values are taught and celebrated through daily Collective Worship and followed up in class discussions. Core British Values of tolerance, respect and justice are taught in the context of the strong Christian ethos. These values are upheld by all staff, Governors, the pupils and visitors to the school. This is reflected in the Christian vision, as well as underpinned by our Behaviour and Bullying and Equality Policies. Staff and Governors/Trustees follow a Code of Conduct which reflects these values, and regular visitors and volunteers to the school are also made aware of the importance of upholding these values. Opportunities are given through the curriculum for pupils to explore core British Values and robust policies and procedures are in place when these values are not upheld, underpinned by clear Christian principles of reconciliation and forgiveness.

We actively teach and promote Fundamental British values in the following ways:

Democracy:

We have a Pupil Parliament which has two representatives from each class, who are voted for at the beginning of each year by their class mates. The Pupil Parliament meets regularly with staff who lead them to discuss issues raised.

Our Parliament has the chance to vote for the charities which the school supports and helps to decide on the fund-raising activities. In addition to this, as a Church of England School, we are committed to support the Children's Society and Christian Aid charities annually. This is an example of how British Values are interlinked.

Each class has a Collective Worship Representative who work alongside the Senior Leaders to take ownership of Collective Worship and Reflection Areas around school. Each class is given the opportunity to voice their ideas and expectations to the representative, which are shared in regular meetings.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, is consistently reinforced at our schools. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws. They learn that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Visits from authorities such as the local Clergy, Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message. Religious Education throughout the school uses examples of religious texts to help pupils to be guided by the teachings of Jesus and other religious figures of authority to influence their behaviour and life choices.

Pupils' pride in their school is shown by their excellent conduct, manners and punctuality. This is evidenced by lesson and general observations in and out of school as well as discussions with pupils and feedback from feeder schools and places we visit. This has been achieved through the embedding of our core Christian values, supportive parents/carers and governors and high expectations of behaviour and learning from all staff. Our pupils can all articulate our school values and their learning, which are prominently displayed around the school and can talk about how these values relate to their behaviour and relationships within school.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

The pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is well developed. We encourage our pupils to achieve their very best and to broaden their education to enable them to make informed decisions later in life as broad-minded and knowledgeable citizens. Pupils can reflect on their experiences in school, demonstrating imaginative and creative approaches and their curiosity for learning. They have a well-developed understanding of right and wrong through the use of positive role models within school, the local community and world religions. Our embedded Christian Values enable them to understand potential right and wrong choices.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, responsibilities and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through Collective Worship, our e-Safety, RSE and PSHE lessons and Jigsaw resources

We aim to have a strong Anti-Bullying culture in our school and any issues are dealt with swiftly and a (See Behaviour and Bullying Policy on website.)

Whether it is through our approach to our curriculum, a choice of challenge, how they record their work or participation in our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices throughout their time at school.

Pupils are taught at an age appropriate stage about health, medicines, drugs, relationships and puberty.

Mutual Respect:

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values.

Through our carefully chosen daily Collective Worship themes, PHSE lessons and circle times, children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and responsibilities and those of others.

All members of the school community treat each other with respect and care.

We have a raft of policies including SEND and Equality, agreed by all stakeholders which reinforce our commitment to valuing individuality and inclusion of all.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

We actively promote diversity through our learning about different faiths and cultures.

Collective Worship, Religious Education lessons, RSE and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others.

Members of different faiths and religions are invited into school, to share their experiences, knowledge and faith to enhance learning for all age groups. Where possible, the children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths including the local Church.

Being part of Britain:

We value and celebrate being part of a multicultural Britain. Although we are guided by the Christian Liturgical calendar and fully celebrate the key events including: Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Mothering Sunday, Lent, Easter and Saint's Days. We also show respect for and learn about key events from other cultures and religions such as Diwali, Sukkot, Rosh Hashanah, Hajj, Chinese New Year, Passover, Ramadan, and Hanukah.

We also celebrate national events such as the Queen's birthday, the Olympics and Paralympics.

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives.

Geographically, they learn about their local environment and compare it with different places all around Great Britain, celebrating the diversity of people, faith, customs and landscape.

Historically, the children learn about British history. This spans across many centuries and includes; the Viking settlers, The Great Fire of London, World War 2 and many famous British people, saints and inventors.

Review Date: October 2023

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