



St Martin's C of E Primary and Nursery School

CURRICULUM POLICY

Rationale

We pride ourselves at St Martin's C of E Primary School and Nursery in providing a safe and happy atmosphere where children's learning and well-being are at the centre of everything we do and that every one of our children is cared for as a child of God. Our priority is to foster our children's excitement for learning through enabling our children to take an active part in the EYFS Framework, the National and wider curriculum; our teachers are expected to take a creative approach to their practice. We have developed a whole school 'language of learning' that is derived from the characteristics of an effective learner identified within the EYFS Framework. Children are asked to think about the process of learning in terms of 'playing and exploring', 'being an active learner' and 'creating and thinking critically'. This enables an innovative approach to curriculum design through our curriculum themes and Learning Narratives and also ensures the children are able to understand *how* they learn rather than just focussing on *what* they learn.

Core Principle 1

Our curriculum is a carefully planned, thematic approach to teaching and learning which is designed to support children's natural curiosity and stimulate their creativity. It offers children the opportunity to work in depth, giving them the time they need to reflect, consolidate and make links in their learning. The opportunity to be creative is vital in terms of developing life skills for the future - problem solving, critical thinking, risk taking and persistence are all developed by being immersed in the creative process.

Core Principle 2

Direct experience is placed at the centre of the curriculum so that teachers draw out and develop children's thinking and capacities in meaningful contexts. We encourage children to access learning in a variety of ways. Children discover that learning is not passive but that it is an active process.

Core Principle 3

Knowledge, skills and understanding are gained in a range of different media and ways, often making effective use of the creative arts and learning through play.

Equality and cohesion will be promoted, in line with our Equality and Cohesion Policy, and the policy will be operated in a non-discriminatory way

Core Principle 4

Children, adults and parents work with each other, drawing resources from the school, the local, national and global community to create a challenging, distinctive and exciting curriculum.

Core Principle 5

All children have an entitlement to a well-resourced and rich learning environment that promotes their sense of responsibility and autonomy and their sense of themselves as a creative and self-motivated learner. Children deserve a learning environment and learning opportunities that engages them and also develops children's excitement and enthusiasm for learning.

REVIEW ANNUALLY

Adopted: 10th May 2012

Reviewed: April 2013, April 2014, April 2015, 26th April 2016, 6th March 2017, 26th February 2018