



## St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School

### CURRICULUM VISION

*The curriculum at St Mary's is designed to equip our children with the tools they will need to be lifelong learners who care for the world as our common home and always try to be the best they can be for themselves and for others. Our curriculum is rich and engaging in order to open our children to the possibilities that are awaiting them.*

**At St Mary's we aim for the STARS or we are STARS:**

**We are Safe-** This applies to all areas of our curriculum: from being safe online, to handling tools safely to taking care of our physical and mental health.

**We Try-** At St Mary's we value mistakes as an opportunity for learning and cultivate a growth mindset culture. If we make mistakes then we are trying.

**We Aspire-** We instill in our children the desire to aspire to be the best they can be in their learning, their relationships and their future careers.

**We Respect-** Respect for ourselves, for others and for God's world is fundamental to life at St Mary's.



**Be the best we can be for ourselves and for others**



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## **Curriculum Intent**

*At St Mary's we have a strong Catholic ethos at the heart of our school. We value and celebrate the diversity of our community and the world that we live in. We are inspired by Pope Francis' Laudato si' on Care for our Common Home and use it to guide our curriculum through making our pupils aware of environmental issues and inspiring them to contribute positively towards an environmentally sustainable future. We engage with the local community in order to gain a better understanding of our local area including visitors and field trips. As a Wild Beach school we make use of our prime position on the beach across different subjects. We actively engage with charities both locally and globally in order to live out our values and mission statement.*

*Our curriculum is planned and sequenced so that the new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught before and towards defined end learning goals. We aim to provide as many possible cross curricular links to bring the learning alive in different dimensions and to achieve depth of learning and engagement.*

*We ensure that our curriculum is broad and balanced including the Arts, PE, Sciences, the Humanities, ICT and Design Technology in order to open up awareness of the future careers that are available to our children. With all of this in mind, we make sure that our curriculum is adaptable to fit the needs of each child. We follow a Growth Mindset approach whereby mistakes are viewed as integral to learning and making progress. We develop our pupils' resilience in the face of both academic and personal challenges.*

*We aim to instil the understanding of how to live physically and mentally healthy lifestyles.*

## **Curriculum Implementation**

*At St Mary's we believe that cross curricular learning is the key to immersing ourselves into a topic and to making links between subjects. We teach knowledge based curriculum with defined skills so that pupils can apply what they have learnt and build upon these as they move up through the school; in classroom this is*

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*supported by strong retrieval and adaptive teaching practice. Teachers and pupils co-construct and apply new knowledge together through clear and achievable success criteria. In our teaching cycles we engage, explain, explore, elaborate and evaluate.*

*We use high impact teaching strategies to set challenging goals and to structure and scaffold lessons. Every lesson provides an opportunity for deepening questioning where teachers model metacognitive strategies to help the children to understand how they learn and consequently become active and more conscious learners.*

*We have high expectations of everyone at St Mary's and believe that a culture of trust and collaboration between teachers, parents and pupils is key to success. We encourage our children as young leaders to have an active voice in their school life and to know that they can contribute and make a positive difference. Our young leaders play vital part in making our school the best it can be through School Council work, Mini Vinnies, Eco Council and House Captains.*

*Our behaviour policy and restorative approaches directly link to the qualities we aim to nurture and develop in our pupils.*

*Throughout the year teachers rigorously use assessment for learning to assess the pupils to identify gaps in their learning and adapt their teaching accordingly to meet the needs of children, we use cold and hot tasks to measure the progress and deepening questions as well as challenge to further the learning. We regularly provide live feedback as well as written feedback so that pupils understand their next steps in their learning and know how and what they need to improve. We use formal assessments including the Baseline Assessment in Reception and PiXL tests as standardised tests. The results of all assessments are used to identify gaps in learning and address those accordingly in order to diminish the attainment gap between pupils. As a result of the frequent data analysis and adaptive teaching approaches, therapies as well as interventions are put in place to ensure better progress for pupils and especially of key marginal students as well as students with SEND and disadvantaged pupils.*

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### **Curriculum Impact**

*Through our curriculum we aim for all pupils to achieve at least the expected national outcomes at the end of Key Stage Two. Furthermore we aim for our pupils to be well equipped with a moral and spiritual compass in order to be a caring influence to the people they meet and the world that we live in. Through our careful curriculum design which is rooted in Catholic Values we aim for our pupils to become lifelong learners and to carry with them their STAR: To be safe, to try, to aspire and to respect as they enter the next stage in their lives. These qualities are also present in the link we make with British Values ensuring our students become responsible future citizens whose core values are democracy and the rule of law.*

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others***