

Reviewed: Summer 2025

Next review: Summer 2027



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School **Curriculum Policy**

Aims of this policy

The aims of this policy are to outline the intent, implementation and impact of the curriculum across the school. This policy should be seen in conjunction with policies named throughout.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Intent

At St Joseph's we believe that all children deserve and have a right to access:

- Memorable experiences so that their understanding and knowledge has a hook for them to hold on to.
- Essential knowledge – the key skills of language, phonics, social skills are shared and embedded in the children.
- Space and safe environment for creativity and curiosity to grow.
- To develop a lifelong love of learning.
- Ready for future success.

Implementation

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a statutory framework produced by the DfE and sets the standards for learning and development of children from birth to five. At St Joseph's the children join the school for the later stages of the EYFS, initially for either part time (15 hours) or full time (30 hours/30+) in the nursery in the academic year in which they turn four, progressing to the reception classes in the academic year in which they turn five.

The EYFS is based upon four themes:

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning and Development

Impact

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Key Stage 1 and Key Stage Two

Our core subjects are English including Early Reading and Phonics, Mathematics, Religious Education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).

Please see the following policies - This policy should be seen in conjunction with: Religious Education (RE), RSE, Catholic Life and Mission, Prayer and Liturgy, English, Early Reading and Phonics, Mathematics and Calculations policy.

Our foundation subjects are Art and Design (Art), Computing, Design and Technology (D&T), History, Geography, Music, Personal Social Health Economics (PSHE), Modern Foreign Language (MFL) and Physical Education (PE).

Intent

At St Joseph's, our mission statement 'Live, love and learn in a caring Christian community' underpins our curriculum design. Our intention is that the curriculum we offer our children is first and foremost one that is rooted in our Catholic faith and the teachings of Jesus Christ. Our well-planned, creative curriculum aims to inspire and excite our children to promote a love of learning as well as enable every child to reach their full potential in life. Our children learn to respect and value diversity through celebrations of their own cultural heritage and that of others. The broad and balanced curriculum is inclusive and relevant, focusing on the individual needs of every child to ensure success whilst providing opportunities for spiritual, moral and intellectual growth within a friendly, positive, safe and caring learning environment. Our children are encouraged to develop resilience and independence, challenge themselves whilst broadening their knowledge and understanding of the world.

Art and Design	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
"I found I could say things with colour and the shapes that I couldn't say any other way - things I had no words for." <i>Georgia O'Keeffe</i> .	To engage, inspire and equip children with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design, through the study of artists, architects and designers.

Design and Technology (D & T)	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
“Design is about making things good (and then better) and right (and fantastic) for the people who use and encounter them.” <i>Matt Beale</i>	To inspire children’s creativity and imagination through rigorous and practical activities, where children gain the skills needed to research, design, make and evaluate products in a variety of real and relevant contexts.

History	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
“The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future.” <i>Theodore Roosevelt</i>	To help pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain’s past and that of the wider world. To help pupils to understand the complexity of people’s lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.

Geography	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
“Geography is a living, breathing subject, constantly adapting itself to change. It is dynamic and relevant for me, geography, it is a great adventure with a purpose.” <i>Michael Palin</i>	To use first-hand observation and secondary sources of information sources of information to gain a deep understanding of Bishop’s Stortford, the Uk, Europe and the wider world including changes of physical and human characteristics over time.

Science	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
“The important thing is to never stop questioning.” <i>Albert Einstein</i>	To develop a secure understanding of scientific concepts within biology, chemistry and physics through hands-on experiments and observations. To foster curiosity, critical thinking and the ability to ask questions to help them explore the world around them using their scientific enquiry skills.

PSHE	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
<p>“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.” <i>C.S Lewis</i></p>	<p>To secure knowledge, understanding and emotions to be able to play an active, positive and successful role in today’s society. We want our children to have high aspirations and a belief in themselves. To understand how to develop personally and socially and be able to tackle many of the moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up with good mental health and well-being.</p>

Music	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
<p>“With music, one’s whole future life is brightened. This is such a treasure in life that it helps us over many troubles and difficulties. Music multiplies all that is beautiful and of value in life.” <i>Zoltan Kodaly</i></p>	<p>Our principal intention is to allow every child the opportunity to appreciate and enjoy music through actively participating in musical activities. Children will perform, compose, listen to and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres and traditions. They will learn to sing confidently with others and to use their voices expressively and to improvise and create music that explores the inter-related dimensions of pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure (and notation).</p>

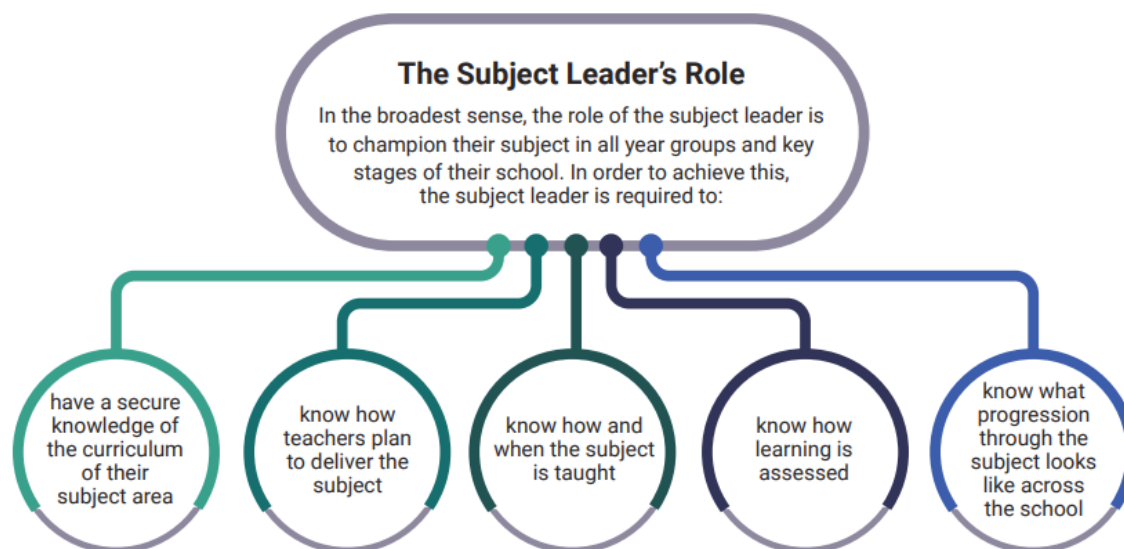
PE	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
<p>“We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.” <i>Jesse Owens</i></p>	<p>To inspire every pupil to succeed and excel in competitive sport whilst building character and embedding values such as fairness, respect and teamwork. Provide opportunities for pupils to become physically confident to support their current and future health and fitness.</p>

MFL	
Subject inspiring quote	Within the whole school Intent
<p>“With languages, you are at home anywhere.”</p> <p><i>Edmund De Waal</i></p>	<p>Our principal intention is to inspire pupils to foster their curiosity of languages and cultures, articulating their ideas in spoken dialogue and written language. Also, to integrate their lives within the wider world enabling them to study and work in other countries in later life, should they choose to do so.</p>

Implementation

Our curriculum has been designed to meet the needs of all our children and is sequenced in a logical way to build on prior learning. Subjects are taught discretely; however, links are made where possible to support our children’s knowledge and understanding. Lessons within a unit are blocked and are taught in a particular order to support ‘sticky knowledge’ and cross curricula links are made where appropriate. To ensure a broad and balanced curriculum, subjects are taught one per term, and Science is taught one per half term. For more information, please see our **curriculum coverage, please click here to see our long-term plans.**

Subject leaders



Subject	Teacher responsible for individual subjects	Scheme of work to support subject
Religious Education (RE)	Mrs McLaughlin	RED
RSE	Miss Cassidy-Jones	Ten Ten
Mathematics	Mr Carrington	Herts for Learning – Essentials
English and Reading	Miss Curran	Herts for Learning – Essentials
Early Reading and Phonics	Mrs Rogers and Mrs Kitchen	Phonics - Little Wandle
History	Mrs Duhig	Kapow
Geography	Mrs Briden	Kapow
Design and Technology (D & T)	Miss Roque	Kapow
Art and Design (Art)	Mrs Elliott	Kapow
Physical Education (PE)	Mrs Browne	Complete PE
Physical Social Health Economics (PSHE)	Miss Cassidy-Jones	Jigsaw
Computing	Mrs Canny and Mrs Ogilvie	Teach Computing
Music	Miss Roper	Music Express
Modern Foreign Language (MFL)	Miss Roper	PPA Cover Ltd

British values

Children are taught the British values of democracy, tolerance, respect, liberty and rule of law throughout the curriculum and through opportunities such as participating in our School council, Eco-council, House Captains, Chaplaincy team and following our school SAINTS rules.

Classroom environments

Every class has a reflective area linked to current learning in RE, English and maths working wall to support and inspire learning and work from foundation subjects are displayed throughout the school. Classrooms are inspiring and engaging for the children to ensure children are excited about their learning.

Inclusion and adaptations

Our curriculum is planned in a way to ensure the needs of all our children are catered for through our adaptative teaching and learning. With the support of our school SENCO, carefully planned interventions are implemented to support all our children, including those children with SEN, the most able, lower prior attaining children, those children with EAL and disadvantaged. For more information, **please see our SEN policy.**

Impact

The effectiveness of the curriculum implementation is monitored through pupil assessment data, pupil voice, lesson observations, planning and book reviews and learning walks. For more information how children are assessed in core and foundation subjects, **please see our Assessment policy.**

Monitoring

Person responsible for this policy is Christina McKenna.

This policy will be reviewed by Governors as part of their ongoing review cycle.