



St Faiths' Primary School – Curriculum Statement

At St Faiths' we teach in mixed-aged classes. We have created a rich, varied and inter-woven school curriculum to meet our children's needs. It reflects where the children come from and provides an excellent base for their future schooling and adult life.

The curriculum at St Faiths' uses the National Curriculum as its foundation. By using this as our starting point, we have been able to ensure that our children study areas in depth, in order to secure their knowledge and understanding while providing plenty of opportunity for the children to apply what they have learnt.

We don't believe that knowledge should be taught in isolated chunks or facts. We have therefore created a long-term rolling programme that offers variety and flexibility, allowing the children to apply their knowledge and develop their skills across different subjects and in different contexts.

In-order for children to have a voice, KWL grids are used at the beginning of each deep study. Children are able to add in questions or possible areas of additional learning helping to provide a degree of ownership and therefore additional motivation. At the end of each deep study, the children can then reflect on their studies, adding another layer of education and confidence in their learning.

To further children's motivation, an inquiry approach is used across the curriculum. Pupils become 'experts' by negotiating an imagined context. They can immerse themselves in a time in history, a geographical location or a story narrative through role-playing, questioning, directing and imagining.

We use in-depth 'deep studies' in Science, Geography, Art, D&T and History, which are taken directly from the National Curriculum and, as much as possible, cross-curricular. Each study is planned in depth to ensure subject-specific knowledge and skills are learnt through the contexts set out by the National Curriculum. Consequently, these studies provide the majority of evidence for assessment purposes. Children's work, including written pieces, produced during these subjects enables them to demonstrate their knowledge and skills specifically in that subject. Work is marked to reflect this.

As we have an inter-woven curriculum, children will have a variety of opportunities to apply and demonstrate the knowledge and skills that they have learnt in their deep studies. An example of this might be: While children are studying the achievements of the earliest civilizations through the Egyptians, they will be able to apply their geographical knowledge of rivers to the importance of the river Nile. Knowledge and skills focus would still be predominately history focused.

To further enhance the curriculum of the children at St Faiths', we plan in a number of extra-curricular activities including, but not limited to, educational visits, residentials, visitors in school and curriculum enrichment programmes such as Shakespeare Schools Festival, Charley Charley One and the Goblin Racer initiative.