



Curriculum Policy

Adopted by the Governing Body: December 2019

Date Last Reviewed: December 2021

Next Review Date: December 2023

Signed: (Executive Headteacher)

Signed: (Chair of Governors)

Introduction

Southam St James C of E Academy's 'Curriculum' is underpinned by each of the following:

The school's value statement, '**Let your Light Shine**'

The school's vision, '**We are all unique and valued members of the St. James family sharing learning, love and laughter as we follow the teachings of Jesus.**'

These were formulated in consultation with all stakeholders and the value statement is strongly based on Biblical scripture:

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (Matt 5:16).

At Southam St James Church of England Academy, we aim for all our children to 'Let their light shine' in conjunction with all of our stakeholders and local community, following the Christian values for life that Jesus taught us. We want our children to know that our community and our school is a special place where we can all feel welcome, safe, supported, valued and respected and be valued for our uniqueness.

At Southam St James C of E Academy, we work together in a welcoming, caring Christian learning environment. We actively encourage each child to achieve and celebrate his/her own unique potential, to respect the beliefs and ideas of others and to become a happy, responsible and considerate person in God's world.

Intent

At Southam St James we aim to provide an ambitious, broad and sequential curriculum that enables all children to make progress and gain a deep body of knowledge. We aim for children to enjoy their learning and to know more and remember more as they progress through the school, so that they are confident, resilient and adaptable learners who are secondary ready.

We aim to achieve this by:

- Promoting high standards and providing a high quality of learning for all pupils;
- Providing a stimulating, disciplined and caring environment in which teachers can teach and pupils can learn;

- Providing a broad, balanced curriculum, including sport, the arts, music and also extra-curricular activities;
- Caring for the individual needs of all our pupils;
- Supporting and encouraging each other as members of a caring community;
- Having close links with the local churches.

We believe that:

- Every child is unique and each child is of equal importance;
- Children's learning flourishes when high value is placed on praise, encouragement, courtesy and consideration for others;
- High quality teaching and good relationships with children and their parents/carers have a positive effect on children's learning;
- The quality of our pupils' learning and the environment during the primary years are critical in laying down the foundation for subsequent learning and development;
- Successes are important in helping our children to become happy, caring adults who will make a positive contribution to their communities.
- All children have a right to a broad, balanced and relevant education which provides continuity and progression and takes individual differences into account.
- Work in school should be planned to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum

Our Staff Aim to

- Challenge and support pupils to do their very best by providing an extensive range of learning experiences
- Cater for the needs of individual children of both sexes from all ethnic and social groups, including the most able and those who are experiencing learning difficulties
- Facilitate children's acquisition of knowledge, skills and qualities which will help them to develop intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically, morally and aesthetically, so that they may become independent, responsible, useful, thinking, confident and considerate members of the community
- Create and maintain an exciting and stimulating learning environment
- Ensure that each child's education has continuity and progression
- Ensure that there is a match between the child and the tasks s/he is asked to perform
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual and cultural development
- Recognise the crucial role which parents play in their children's education and make every effort to encourage parental involvement in the educational process
- Treat children in a dignified way

We Aim That All Children Should

- Learn: to be adaptable; how to solve problems in a variety of situations; how to work independently and as members of a team, using Christian Values to underpin their decisions
- Develop the ability to make reasoned judgements and choices, based on interpretation and evaluation of relevant information from a variety of sources, using Christian Values to underpin this
- Be happy, cheerful and well balanced
- Be enthusiastic and eager to put their best into all activities
- Begin acquiring a set of moral values, such as honesty, sincerity, personal responsibility, on which to base their own behaviour, in line with British Values
- Be expected to behave in a dignified, acceptable way and learn to become responsible for their actions

- Care for and take pride in their school
- Develop tolerance, respect and appreciation of the feelings and capabilities of others in an unbiased way, in line with British Values
- Develop non-sexist and non-racist attitudes, in line with British Values
- Know how to think and solve problems mathematically in a variety of situations using concepts of number, algebra, measurement, shape and space, and handling data
- Be able to listen and read for a variety of purposes and be able to convey their meaning accurately and appropriately through speech and writing for a variety of purposes
- Develop an enquiring mind and scientific approach to problems
- Have an opportunity to solve problems using technological skills
- Be capable of communicating their knowledge and feelings through various art forms including art/craft, music, drama and be acquiring appropriate techniques which will enable them to develop their inventiveness and creativity
- Know about geographical, historical and social aspects of the local environment and national heritage and be aware of other times and places and recognise links among family, local, national and international events
- Have some knowledge and understanding of the beliefs of the major world religions
- Develop agility, physical co-ordination and confidence in and through movement
- Know how to apply the basic principles of health, hygiene and safety

Be personalised to the lives of the children at our school

- Reflect our locality and make use of local resources
- Be broad, balanced and relevant to the children at our school
- Meet the needs of all children, whatever their backgrounds, needs or prior attainment
- Provide children with a range of learning experiences that challenge, stimulate and promote thinking and self-regulated learning
- Promote learning which is based on first-hand, real-life and practical experiences wherever possible
- Encourage our pupils to love learning, have faith in themselves and to have hope for the future
- Encourage our pupils to be curious, 'life-long' learners
- Cover the statutory guidance as outlined in The New National Curriculum, 2014.

Organisation

Our curriculum is organised into topics for each half-term/term for each year group based on the statutory guidance from the New National Curriculum 2014. These have been carefully planned to be sequenced with regards to aspects of knowledge and skill and, for history, chronology.

Subjects that are particularly integrated within Topic include Geography, History, English, Computing, Art and DT.

Subjects taught discreetly are Maths, RE, Science, PE, Music, French and PSHE although, wherever possible, we try to link these to topic (see Topic Webs on our website).

Our current topic web is available on the 'Curriculum' page of our website:

<https://www.southamstjames.covmat.org/curriculum/>

Expectations and Intent

Each topic must include a 'Wow Event' in which the children can be taken 'outside of their normal learning' to enhance and deepen their experiences further e.g. trip, visitor into school, experiential learning.

Our Curriculum Intent Statement is available on the 'Curriculum' page of our website:

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Role of the Subject Leaders

- Ensuring teachers understand the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and that these are covered during topics
- Supporting staff with any queries
- Working with other subject leaders to develop the curriculum as necessary
- Continuing to develop resources for our topics
- Liaising with Senior Management about changes as necessary
- On-going monitoring of planning and children's work to ensure coverage, progression and differentiation
- Keep abreast of national developments in their subject

Role of the Teacher

- Assess and plan for the specific needs of the children within their own class whilst adhering to the progression laid down in the New National Curriculum
- Plan for well-paced lessons which drive learning forward
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for building on knowledge of key facts and developing transferable skills across a broad and balanced curriculum
- Plan for the effective use of Computing to enhance teaching and learning
- Adapt planning, taking into consideration the interests and learning styles of different children, including the local area
- Use a wide range of resources creatively to enthuse learning and develop skills

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

The school will ensure that:

- All children cover the content in all subjects made statutory by the New National Curriculum Programmes (2014)
- Children access the curriculum at the appropriate level ensuring progression and differentiation to strengthen/deepen learning
- Suitable resources and learning environments will be available to enable children access to the learning required
- All children have access to a broad and balanced Curriculum irrespective of race, gender and disability