

Witton Church Walk Church of England Primary School.

Curriculum Policy 2018



‘Where Every Door is Opened and Every Gift is Unlocked’

Vision

At Witton we are a partnership of school, church, home and community. We create a stimulating and caring environment, grounded in Christian belief and practice, so that all members of our school community feel happy, safe and secure. Time is taken to value and nurture each child educationally, creatively and spiritually. Children and staff are encouraged to aim for ‘Everyday Excellence’ and believe in themselves in order to achieve their full potential.

Values

The social, moral, spiritual, cultural and our Christian values, which are the foundations in our school, will be strengthened as our curriculum enables the children to understand the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of laws, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Throughout school, you will see a variety of teaching and learning opportunities which enable our children to understand:

- How citizens can influence decision making through a democratic process.
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens.
- An understanding that bodies such as the Police and the Army can be held account by people, through the democratic organs of Government.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law, and an acceptance that other people having different faiths and beliefs to oneself (or having none) should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
- An understanding of the problems of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Aims and Objectives

- To provide the pupils with the essential knowledge they need to be educated citizens.
- To equip the pupils with the knowledge, skills and values they need to function locally, nationally and globally.
- We aim to provide an exciting, stimulating and engaging curriculum, which engages children, families, their carers’ and the community.

- To promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that children enjoy coming to school and acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning.
- To enable children to be positive citizens in society and to feel that they can make a difference.
- To enable children to be passionate about what they believe in, to develop their own thinking and become independent learners.
- To listen to pupil voice and involve pupils in the planning and decision making.

How we teach the curriculum

Planning and organisation

We have worked together to plan an innovative curriculum, which is balanced and broadly based. Our yearly coverage includes themes, which are relevant to the children, their locality and their wider world. Each teacher can personalise the curriculum according to the children's experiences and needs. We endeavour to broaden experiences using a flexible, intriguing curriculum that gives the children opportunities to discover new learning. The objectives and skills will be closely monitored termly, to ensure appropriate coverage and progression in each area.

Key Stage 1, lower Key Stage 2 and upper Key Stage 2 work together to create a medium term plan for each theme, where objectives for the foundation subjects are outlined. Whole school themes will be planned to encourage the children across all age groups to work in unity and develop ideas through challenge and collaborative thinking. A short term plan will provide more specific detail on the teaching strategies and learning objectives for each lesson. These are shared with parents and carers via letter and website.

In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 evidence of the children's work is presented in individual creative curriculum books showing a range of evidence, from lessons and enrichment days.

Enrichment days are planned throughout the year to provide the children with exciting opportunities for learning, giving them access to a broad bank of experiences, vocabulary and memories.

Monitoring and Review

Coverage of the objectives for the curriculum are monitored by subject leaders. Planning and evidence of pupils' work will be monitored throughout the year through observations, planning and book scrutiny, display and learning walks.

The quality and quantity of work which is produced in English and Maths lessons is expected across the whole curriculum and is carefully monitored.

Assessment

Teacher's assess the pupils in their class at the end of each term and add data to the school tracking system, this will provide evidence for the continuous progress to be made.

Subject leaders are responsible for ensuring that data has been updated for their subject area, the Curriculum and Assessment leader will analyse and feedback to subject leaders.

The Characteristics of Learning.

The values of the characteristics of effective learning will underpin all teaching and learning through school from EYFS to Year 6.

Throughout the school, the teacher's provide opportunities for children to be creative, think critically, become self-motivated to learn and promote enquiry and investigation using a growth mind-set.

The 'Skill, Will and Thrill' represent the characteristics of effective learning.

- **Skill:** to be active and engaged
- **Will:** to have the will to keep going, creating and thinking critically.
- **Thrill:** to be inspired by the thrill of discovery.

We believe that by embedding these characteristics into the curriculum, it will inspire and equip our children with the skills to become life-long learners.

Alongside the characteristics the children will be introduced to the 'Pit of Learning'. Through this the children will understand the importance of making mistakes in their learning and the power of thinking big!

Praise and recognition will be given for specific effort, enthusiasm and ability to evaluate their own learning and mastery of skills.

Metacognitive skills are essential for life-long learning, helping children to develop their own mind, opinions and perspectives which is vital for enriching a child's emotional well-being.

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."

Einstein