

John 15:12: This is **my commandment**, that you **love one another**, even as I have **loved** you.

Farnsfield St Michael's C of E Primary School



FARNSFIELD ST MICHAEL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Policy

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Curriculum Intent



At Farnsfield St Michael's CofE Primary School, we plan and deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that is tailored to the needs and experiences of our pupils. Our curriculum is deeply rooted in love and Christian faith, underpinned by our seven 'Rainbow Values'. Through real outcomes and concept driven learning, our curriculum develops children's skills, knowledge and wider experiences in order for them to become well-rounded individuals. Our curriculum is designed to ignite a passion for learning that will continue long after children have left our school. As our school motto says, at Farnsfield St Michael's we 'love to learn, learn to love.'

Our curriculum is organised into termly themed topics which provide opportunities for cross-curricular learning, wherever possible, where links between subject areas are made explicit.

There is a core focus for each term across the school:

- Autumn Term - **'DISCOVER'** - History focus.
- Spring Term - **'CREATE'** - Art, D&T and Music focus.
- Summer Term - **'EXPLORE'** - Geography focus.

Science, PE and Computing is taught either through the topics or in discrete blocks, as appropriate. English and Maths are interwoven through the topics wherever possible. All Foundation subjects will be taught through the year, not just in their focus term.

Each topic is based around specific values and a 'Big Question' which all the learning is pinned upon. These values and questions work alongside a real outcome for each topic, where the children work towards a real life objective so they can see the impact of their learning in the wider world.

Below are some examples of these questions and outcomes:

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Phase	Question	Topic focus	Real outcome
Foundation	What if we were all the same?	All about me – my family, my home, my body, friendships	Self-portraits, skeleton models, house models
Key Stage 1	What if we were 100 years old?	Victorians, the human body, health and looking after ourselves	Toy design to pitch to a board – Young Entrepreneurs
Lower Key Stage 2	What if nothing got left behind?	The Stone Age to Iron Age and the Egyptians,	Museum exhibition of artefacts from each period
Upper Key Stage 2	What if the Victorians never existed?	Victorian Britain, Electricity,	Mechanical Sculptures – Design, Make, Evaluate

As a school with a strong Christian foundation, it was vital to us to create a curriculum which was built on the values which we want our children to understand and embody during their time at St Michael's and throughout their lives.

Our seven 'Rainbow Values' underpin everything we do:



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Other values that we centre our curriculum on may include:

love hope peace trust kindness patience charity faith
curiosity loyalty empathy tolerance generosity thoughtfulness
reflection

To reflect the topic and values each term, a bible verse is also attached to each 'Big Question' to enable children to reflect on their learning through their Christian beliefs and values.

Examples include:

Phase	Big Question	Bible Verse
Foundation	What if we were all the same?	Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
Key Stage 1	What if we were 100 years old?	Psalm 106:1 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.
Lower Key Stage 2	What if nothing was left behind?	Deuteronomy 32:7 Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you.
Upper Key Stage 2	What if the Victorians never existed?	Psalm 145:4 One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

Our bespoke RE curriculum - which draws on the local Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity – is a core element of our wider curriculum provision and 'What if?' style of learning.

Our topics are literature-rich with teachers using high-quality texts to engage and enrich children's learning. This begins in the Early Years Foundation Stage all the way through to Year Six.

Our rolling curriculum over a two-year cycle is supplemented by special theme days and weeks. These are planned for a variety of reasons, such as national or community events, Christian festivals or for coverage of the curriculum.

We have a fantastic site at our school and a wonderful community which provide a

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wealth of outdoor learning experiences. We promote learning outdoors as a key part of our curriculum, recognising that these experiences are an enriching and rewarding part of our children's learning journey.

Many of our children may have limited experience of different cultures and faiths. Through our value and real outcome-based curriculum, we promote children's interest in the wider world and aim to take them beyond their own experiences. We encourage children to be respectful of all others and to have confidence in themselves, which is underpinned by our Christian ethos and values.

Our curriculum is supplemented by out of school day visits and residential. Children have the opportunity to visit a variety of places to enhance their learning and experiences, such as places of worship, museums and parks. We have close links with our local CofE and Methodist churches as well as Southwell Minster and the whole school visit church at least twice a year.

We also have visitors in school to enrich our children's experience of our curriculum, such as artists, history workshops, athletes and authors.

All children are offered the opportunity to go on a residential each year from Year 2 to Year 6:

- Year 2 – Camp on School Field – Personal Development
- Year 3/4 – York – History Focus
- Year 3/4 – Derbyshire – Castleton – Geography Focus
- Year 5 – Yorkshire – Boggle Hole – Geography Focus
- Year 6 – Derbyshire – Hagg Farm – Outdoor education

These residential are carefully planned to support our curriculum as well as provide children with the life experiences and skills that they cannot always get in the school building. Each residential visit has an intent statement to accompany.

Our school motto underpins our curriculum intent; we want our children to become life-long learners who flourish and realise their God-given talents, as well as developing as individuals and members of their communities. Our children will **'love to learn, learn to love'** throughout their time at St Michael's and throughout their lives beyond.

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Policy Review

This policy has been produced in consultation with the governing body, staff and parents.

This policy will be reviewed:	Every 2 years
It is due to be reviewed again on:	October 2024
It was approved by LGB on:	October 2022
Signed by Chair of Governors:	<i>J Fieldwick</i>