



## Curriculum Policy

This policy is intended to be read by teachers, teaching assistants, parents, governors, inspectors, support staff and staff from other schools with which we may have links.

Date Approved: 7/7/16

Date of Review: Annually, Autumn Term 2017

### **Introduction**

This policy outlines the Teaching and Learning approaches used at St. Luke's. It reflects the school's values and ethos. The policy has been drawn up after staff consultation and has the full agreement of the governing body. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of all the teaching staff.

### **Our vision**

To create a caring Christian community in which all individuals feel valued, supported and respected, and where potential is recognised and developed.

### **Rationale**

All school policies form a public and accountable statement of intent. This policy is intended to create an agreed whole-school approach of which staff, children, parents, governors and other agencies have a clear understanding. It is important that a positive attitude towards learning is encouraged among all children and staff in order to foster self-confidence and a sense of achievement. The policy also explains how we, as a school, meet our legal requirements in all subject areas.

## CURRICULUM

Our aim is that the school curriculum provides our children with the skills they will need to lead them forward. We feel it is vital that the children are taught the necessary skills and are then given the opportunities to apply them to meaningful and relevant activities.

At St. Luke's we believe that children should be able to see links between subjects and how learning is interconnected. To this end, we have created a two year rolling Curriculum Map that, where possible, identifies and makes connections between subjects. This is using FOCUS Education and the New National Curriculum 2014. RE is taught using the New Essex Syllabus (March 2015). At the beginning of every half term parents receive a curriculum overview, outlining what is to be taught as well as the themes for collective worship.

### **British Values**

As of September 2014, the DFE requires all schools to promote the historical and current values that underpin the national identity known as being British. Within this, all schools are required to ensure that the curriculum actively promotes these fundamental British Values. At St. Luke's we celebrate cultures and events from all over the world. Alongside this, the school is keen to support all students in learning about and deepening their understanding of British Values, culture and systems.

Policy Implemented: 2014

Reviewed and changed to reflect the new curriculum – November 2014

## **Learning- Centredness**

As part of gaining pupils' views and using their opinion, we have engaged in a development programme attached to the SE+ project. This involves exciting openings to topics and pupil involvement in planning.

At St. Luke's we believe in educating the 'whole child' and we look to give the children as many different experiences as possible, creating life- long learners. An exciting and stimulating curriculum is important to us and we are continually updating and enriching it.

Examples of this are as follows:

- ☺ 'Wow!' days to introduce topics at the beginning of term
- ☺ Dedicated Book, Art, Science, computing and French days
- ☺ Regular visitors: musicians, authors, members from a variety of religions
- ☺ Visits to give children hands on experience to support and reinforce learning
- ☺ Sporting tournaments and events
- ☺ Religious celebrations
- ☺ PE specialist coaching
- ☺ Community events
- ☺ Cultural experiences
- ☺ Regional competitions i.e. art, debates.
- ☺ Extra-curricular lessons and clubs
- ☺ Additional support and interventions
- ☺ Pastoral and well- being provision
- ☺ SEND provision and Gifted and Talented opportunities

## **EYFS**

Our school fully supports the principle that young children learn through play, and by engaging in well- planned structured activities. Teaching in the Early Years classes builds on the experiences of the children from pre-school. We build positive partnerships through visits by the Foundation Stage teacher to various pre-school and nursery settings.

## **Special Educational Needs; Inclusion; Equal Opportunities; Education for a culturally diverse society.**

At St. Luke's Primary School we recognise the responsibility of all schools to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils. The New National Curriculum 2014 is the starting point for planning a curriculum that meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of pupils. We have adopted the statutory inclusion statement on providing effective learning opportunities for all pupils. When planning, teachers will modify, as necessary the New National Curriculum 2014 programmes of study to provide all pupils with relevant and appropriately challenging work in each key stage.

## **Parent Relations**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education, acts of collective worship and specific units from the Sex Education programme.

Parents/carers are encouraged to communicate with staff via-

- \* twice yearly parents evenings

Policy Implemented: 2014

Reviewed and changed to reflect the new curriculum – November 2014

- \* termly parent discussion groups
- \* email communication
- \* open door policy for face to face meetings
- \* Open Afternoons to view work
- \* The open door policy also extends to contacting the headteacher.