



# St Mary's CE Primary School

*Bringing out the best in each other*

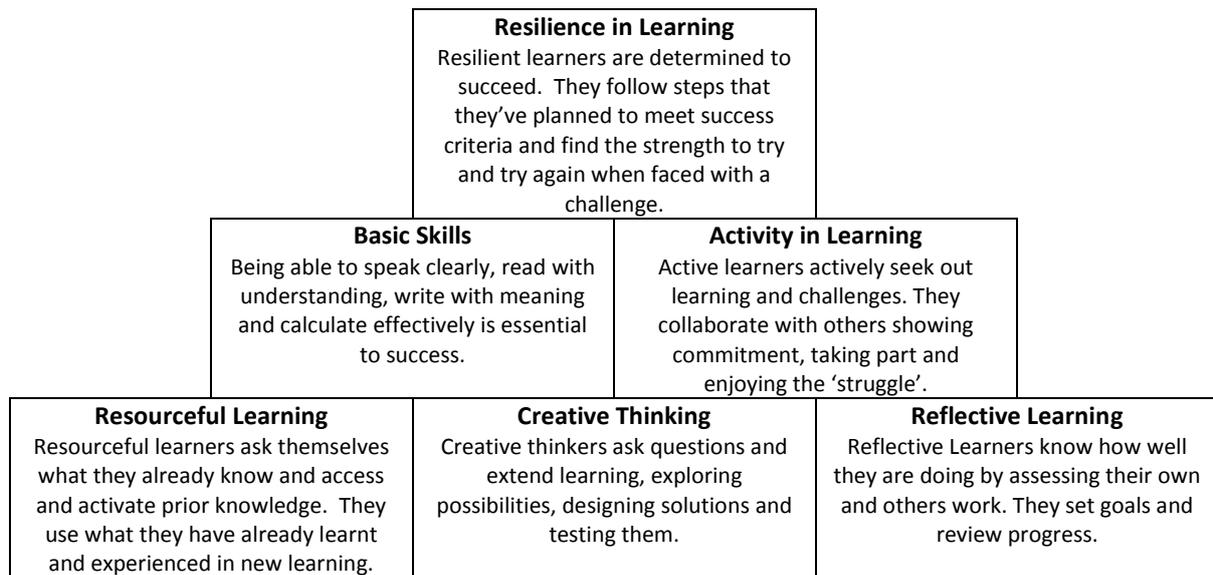


## Our Curriculum Intent:

Our curriculum is intended to equip our learners for the challenges which lie ahead of them in the next stage of their education and in the wider world beyond. We want to ensure that every child leaves our school with the academic skills needed to succeed and with high quality learning behaviours which will sustain them in their future lives.

The curriculum is rooted in our core Christian values and is designed to support children in becoming individuals who show compassion, can communicate effectively and collaborate well with others. The moral basis of our curriculum, which challenges our learners with big questions, prepares them to become positive role models and open-minded global citizens who are able to take their place in modern society.

At St Mary's, our curriculum is driven by the following pyramid of skills. These are the skills that children learn and develop as they study the knowledge planned for them through our 'Learning Projects'.



We have designed the curriculum through collaboration with other schools and by talking to our pupils about what they enjoy and want to learn about. As our aim is to create global citizens; we want to ensure that our 'Learning Projects' enable children to learn the knowledge that the national curriculum sets out and also allow us to teach our children the values that are drivers for our whole school community. In order to fulfil our school motto: *'Bringing out the best in each other as children of God'*, we use the teachings of Jesus to explore, learn about and demonstrate Christian Values. Studying values, such as loyalty, allows us to make links between areas of learning easily and to connect knowledge and skills to the world around us.

## Our Curriculum implementation:

We have broken the year down into three Learning Projects; these projects each have driving subjects where the knowledge and skills for this subject are taught (this does not mean that they will only be taught in this term). They will also have 5 project values which will be used to link the learning and to ask 'Big Questions'.

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Discover	Explore	Express
During this project, the driving subjects are History and Computing. We learn about the past and learn how to let others know about it too.	During this project, the driving subjects are Geography and Design Technology. We learn about real-world issues and how we can make a difference.	During this project, the driving subjects are Music and Art & Design. We learn how to express ourselves using a range of media and share this with others.

Most of our English teaching will be linked to these learning projects and will offer opportunities for children to write with real purpose and impact. Mathematics, Science French and Physical Education will be taught discreetly but we will be looking for opportunities to make links where they enhance the learning.



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Religious Education (learning about and from world faiths) will be used as a driver to teach our project values at the start of each project and we will also maintain the school's distinctive Christian character by continuing to learn about and from the Christian faith at major festival times. We will explore the project values by studying the either Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jewish or Buddhist beliefs, traditions and rituals.

Below is an outline of the Learning Projects Planned for each Year Group for the Autumn Term:

Year	Project Theme	Project Values	Sunshine 6 Value	Big Question	RE Driver	History Focus
1	Significant Historical Figures and Places	Equality, Strength, Service, Responsibility	Compassion	Whose responsibility is it to care for others?	Sikhism caring for others and sharing what you have	Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole, nursing in the past & Selly Oak hospitals in the past.
2	Changes in living memory – our local area.	Tradition, Identity, Community, Change	Respect	Is change always good?	Comparing the features of Eid-al-Fitr and Christmas. What are the key features of these festivals for Muslims and Christians?	The timeline of changes to St. Mary's school through the last 200 years. How has Selly Oak changed and what are the buildings in our area? Sharing opinions about the changes to the local area.
3	Ancient Greece	Democracy, Faith, Common Good, Service.	Respect	How do we work together to serve the common good?	Understanding the moral aims of Hinduism. How Hindus worship and an example of Hindu teaching – Ghandi.	Learning about the Democracy of ancient Greece – links to life now. Life in Ancient Greece including: the spread of the empire, military, Gods and family life - the roles of men and women.
4	Celts and Romans	Service, Power, Change, Belonging	Courage	Do you have to be a leader to make a difference?	What does mean to belong to the Sikh community? The leadership of the Gurus and the formation of the Khalsa – understanding the 5 Ks.	Comparing leaders: Guru Nanak, Augustus Caesar, Boudicca. Exploring cultures and the formation of the Roman Empire. How did people serve their communities with a focus on the military.
5	Egypt	Power, Fairness, Community, Class	Respect	If you think you own something, does it make it yours?	How do Christianity and Hinduism compare in the way that people worship? Who owns a Church and Mandir? What is Dharma and respectful living?	Was Ancient Egyptian society fair? How was it organised? Who owned the artefacts discovered when excavating the pyramids? How does the dynasty of the Pharaohs link to Roman times? What changes occurred?
6	World War II	Conflict, Consequences, Common Good, Duty	Courage	Should we always stand by our decisions?	How does religion help when times get hard? Comparing Islamic and Christian beliefs about judgment and the concept of heaven.	A study of the challenging decision during WWII: the decision not to go to war and then to go to war; evacuation of children and when to send them back; the Kindertransport – should we do more for refugees now?



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RE linked to Christianity:

At the end of each term, each class will study a two-week unit of work about Understanding Christianity. Through this work, the children will again be learning about and from faith.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Reception	Incarnation: Why do Christians perform nativity play at Christmas?	Salvation: Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?	Creation / God: Why is the word God important to Christians?
Years 1 & 2	Incarnation: Why does Christmas matter to Christians?	Salvation: Why does Easter matter to Christians?	Gospel: What is the good news Jesus brings?
Years 3 & 4	People of God: What is it like to follow God?	Salvation: Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?	Kingdom of God: When Jesus left, what was the impact of Pentecost?
Years 5 & 6	People of God: How can following God bring freedom and justice?	Salvation: What did Jesus do to save human beings? (Year 5) What difference does the resurrection make to Christians? (Year 6)	Gospel: What would Jesus do?

### **Sharing our curriculum with the Community:**

We share our learning and curriculum through class assemblies and invite parents throughout the year to come and see the work that the children produce. Curriculum Newsletters are shared with parents to illustrate the learning that is ahead for each term.