



Bolton-le-Sands C of E Primary School

With God at the centre, we reach out to support each other in learning, growth and community.

BOLTON-LE-SANDS CURRICULUM STATEMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

At Bolton-le-Sands Church of England Primary School, we believe that God is at the centre of all we aim to do. It is our goal to ensure that all members of our school community are given the opportunity to get to know God and thank Him for His goodness to us. We are the village school and are at the heart of this village community, all members of this community are made welcome at our school because, it is our faith that, **“with God at the centre, we reach out to support each other in learning, growth and community.”**

CURRICULUM STATEMENT

At Bolton-le-Sands, we strive to provide high quality education that values the development of the child as an individual. We believe that every child is a gift from God, and as such brings with them unique talents and characteristics which are to be nurtured and celebrated. Within our school family, each action made and decision taken is underpinned with Christian values which play a significant part in the life of our school.

Our curriculum is rooted in a desire to prepare children for success in the 21st century by inspiring a love of learning which continues throughout their lives. Our aim in the EYFS is to build strong foundations rooted in academic success, as well as moral and spiritual development, so that ultimately our pupils can be successful learners and go on and be active citizens in society and happy, curious life-long learners.

Our curriculum is designed to provide breadth and balance of experience, knowledge, skills and understanding in all areas of the National Curriculum and beyond, and is carefully structured to ensure progression for each child. We take account of each child’s individual skills and interests and develop these through a curriculum which is enriched by a wide range of exciting opportunities.

CURRICULUM AIMS

We aim to provide a curriculum which:

- Develops a balance of knowledge, skills and understanding, ensuring breadth of knowledge alongside the ongoing development of key skills to enable children to aspire to become subject specialists.
- Is derived from our beliefs about high quality education and our values, ensuring we give our pupils appropriate and ambitious curriculum opportunities.
- Meets the requirements of the National Curriculum for England.
- Improves the cultural capital of our students, giving them the vital knowledge required to grow into informed members of our community, as well as inspiring children to develop spiritually, morally and culturally.
- Fosters resilience, responsibility and emotional intelligence, giving children opportunities for independent thought and decision making.
- Instils enthusiasm, curiosity and a positive attitude to learning in all children.

- Offers creative opportunities for experiential learning through visits, visitors, outdoor learning and parental enhancements.
- Celebrates individuals, promoting understanding of diversity and global awareness.

THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM

Our school bases its main work on the **Early Years Foundation Stage** for the children in Reception. There is a strong emphasis on the three prime areas which are most essential for children's healthy development. These areas are: 'Communication and Language', 'Physical Development' and 'Personal, Social and Emotional Development'. Learning in the specific areas of Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design build upon learning in the prime areas.

We aim to offer a personalised and experiential curriculum where the children have fun, are engaged in their learning and actively prepared for Year 1 of the National Curriculum. We begin each new year by looking at the individual needs and interests of our children, taking into account their different starting points. We then develop our flexible EYFS curriculum which enables them to follow the path of their learning journey at a point that is suitable for their development using a thematic approach where learning is built around topics, such as:

- Ourselves
- Imagination
- Space
- Pirates
- Traditional Tales
- Minibeasts

These are example topics; they change regularly depending on the need and interests of the children.

Our learning environments both inside and outside are adapted regularly to meet the different and developing needs of the children. We aim to ensure these areas are always stimulating and exciting, and more importantly, are accessible to all children regardless of where they are on their learning journey. The environments are developed to promote independence within our children and allow them to access the curriculum independently with the necessary level of support and challenge.

Within our EYFS Curriculum, children are assessed continuously through accurate and important observations. These provide us with information for future planning, not only for our individual classes but for the children's next steps in learning. They enable us to ensure learning is embedded and consistent and that all children continue to make outstanding progress within our setting.

THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

Children in Years 1 to 6 follow the **National Curriculum**. The National Curriculum 2014 provides pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens. It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

At Bolton-le-Sands Church of England Primary School, there is an emphasis on the core subjects of English and Mathematics being taught during the daily literacy and numeracy activities. Science, Religious Education and Computing are the other subjects to which much time is dedicated. The foundation subjects of Art, Design Technology, Physical Education, History, Geography, PSHE and Music are covered in topic work or subject based lessons.

Phonics is taught through the 'Letters and Sounds' scheme. A number of resources are used to support teaching and learning including 'Jolly Phonics', and the online resources 'Nessie', 'Espresso' and 'Phonics Play'.

As a church school **Christian values** play a key part in our children's education. We are committed to being a welcoming school with a strong Christian ethos where all children can flourish – physically, spiritually, socially

and morally. We place the highest importance on being a safe and secure school where everyone feels happy and valued, as well as being a nurturing school which enables growth in self-confidence, resilience and personal responsibility. In our aim to achieve all this each half term we focus on a different Christian value. As a whole school we think about what that value means to us and how we can incorporate it into our lives; at home, in school and in the community.

ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

The Curriculum at Bolton-le-Sands encompasses a wide range of learning experiences for the children. Children learn effectively through direct experience. We therefore offer opportunities for pupils, from the earliest stage, to enhance their learning experiences by bringing the Curriculum alive and making their learning more relevant.

We achieve this through the use of well-chosen educational visits, workshops (both on and off site) and topic related costume and role play days. Examples of these include: visits to Borwick Hall, Wildlife Oasis, Heysham Power Station, Lancaster University, Williamson Park, Manchester Airport, Preston Gurdwara, Morecambe Bay and the local woods; workshops including Space Dome, Judaism, Recycling and Victorian lessons; 'dressing up' days as World War II evacuees, Knights of the Realm and book characters. Visitors are also invited into school to enhance the curriculum and regularly include actors, visitors from other faiths, parents and other members of our local community. Topics are launched using a range of exciting learning opportunities: Katie Morag's letter, survival skills in the outback (Thwaite Brow), lost penguins, Gladiator battles and many more.

The Curriculum is also enriched through a wide range of extra-curricular activities which are available for all children as well as enhancing provision for our gifted and talented children. The activities give children the opportunity to learn and apply new skills in groups across different age ranges with teachers other than their own class teacher. The activities on offer change regularly and include; construction club, choir, creative writing, mural art club, Loaves and Fishes, Run for Fun, Eco club, gardening club, gym stars, drama club, a range of sports clubs and film club.

There are also many opportunities for children from Year 2 onwards to learn to play an instrument. Instrument lessons on offer include; woodwind, brass, djembe, guitar and recorder.

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR PARENTS / CARERS

If parents have any questions about the curriculum, then the first port of call should be the Class Teacher. It is very likely that the Class Teacher will be able to respond to your query. It is possible that you may be referred to the member of staff with specific responsibility for the subject area or to a member of the school's Leadership Team. For further information, please contact the School Office on 01524 823606.