

Curriculum Statement – Breadth and Balance

At St Thomas' C of E Primary school we carefully design, plan and implement a curriculum which provides breadth for every pupil:

At St Thomas' C of E Primary, careful analysis and discussion about our pupils' backgrounds, life experiences and culture has helped us to design a curriculum with three key priorities underpinning every subject area. We believe that by focusing on the following key priorities our children will be ready to successfully meet the challenges of the next stage of their education and their lives.

Our curriculum priorities are:

1. ***Spirituality*** – we aim to enable our children to ***reflect*** on their learning and seek to extend themselves mentally, physically and spiritually; by upholding the Christian ethos of the school.
2. ***Initiative*** - we aim to offer experiences which help our children to become ***independent*** and resourceful learners.
3. ***Mindfulness*** – we aim to provide children with the tools to help them concentrate, focus and fully experience their lives. This priority will also help them to become ***resilient learners***; with the tools they have been given, they will be able to ***confidently*** tackle new and unknown situations

The range of experiences we offer support and champion our culture and ensures that our children benefit from a full range of academic, spiritual, moral, social and cultural activities. These activities enrich their lives and those of our whole school community and make them proud of their British values and diverse society to which belong and play an active part. We are proud that our curriculum gives our children the skills, confidence and self-belief to lead a happy and fulfilled life by encouraging them to aim high and work towards their goals and dreams in life.

At St Thomas' C of E Primary school we carefully design, plan and implement a curriculum to provide balance for every pupil:

We believe that all children should feel valued, successful and experience the feeling of accomplishment in a wide range of areas. Our curriculum therefore gives pupils an excellent mix of academic and personal development; it gives equal importance to core and foundation subjects; physical wellbeing and mental wellbeing are both valued, understood and prioritised by our careful consideration of curriculum design.

At St Thomas' Primary school we place high priority on ensuring children's physical and mental wellbeing are met. We understand that children will not be successful learners unless they are emotionally secure, therefore we carefully design our curriculum and adopt a flexible approach to timetabling to ensure that we can meet and respond to any issues which may arise. Children's physical and mental wellbeing are as valued and important as academic development.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, along with a well-planned and structured programme of personal development, underpins all of our work and is monitored closely as academic subjects.

Our full and rich curriculum, with its range of experiences, ensures that every pupil at St Thomas' makes excellent progress both academically and personally. Our unique curriculum ensures that every child is given the opportunity to shine and flourish.