



The St Paul's Curriculum

Our curriculum is sequenced and coherently planned to meet the needs of all children in school. It provides a secure knowledge and skills base for our children to be successful beyond their primary years.

Early Years

Children in Class 1 explore their learning through the Early Years Foundation stage curriculum. The curriculum is divided up in the following areas but all are interrelated to each other:

Core Areas

- Communication and Language
- Physical development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Art and Design

At the end of the Reception year, children are assessed against the Early Learning Goals to determine whether they have the skills, knowledge and understanding across all the areas expected for their age. The school will also evaluate how well children demonstrate the following characteristics of effective learning:

- **By playing and exploring:**
finding out and exploring
using what they know in their play
being willing to have a go
- **Through active learning:**
being involved and concentrating
keeping on trying
enjoying achieving what they set out to do
- **By creating and thinking critically:**
having their own ideas
having what they already know to learn new things
choosing ways to do things and finding new ways

The themes that children learn through during the course of the year vary according to the group of children and their interests. Activities are planned on a topic-led basis to make the most of their enthusiasm and engagement.

The National Curriculum

Children in Year 1- 6 follow the national curriculum programmes of study for Key Stages 1 and 2, which include the following subjects:

Core Subjects

- English
- Maths
- Science

Foundation Subjects

- Computing
- Art and Design
- Geography
- History
- Design Technology
- Music
- Physical Education
- Modern Foreign Language

At St Paul's we also consider Religious Education to be a core area of learning and follow the Tameside agreed syllabus alongside units of work from the Chester Diocese scheme of work promoting the spiritual development of everyone.

The national curriculum is just one aspect of the education of each child and here at St Paul's we ensure that every child's personal, social, emotional and spiritual needs are developed. The curriculum is enriched and enhanced through visits and visitors, extra-curricular activities, themed days and weeks, as well as community focused activities and residential events for pupils. Events are also planned to enable cross phase working to develop partnerships between different ages of children.

Due to the nature of our mixed aged classes, our learning themes and topics are planned in a rolling format over two years. These are structured to ensure strands of learning are sequential. Each theme/topic is co-constructed with the children to assess prior knowledge and any misconceptions prior to the start of the learning journey.

Year 4 children have clarinet tuition from Tameside music service each week and individual lessons are available for all children in school. Our all-inclusive choir meet each week and take part in the Young Voices concerts in Manchester as well as local community events like the Big Sing.

Further afield children experience a range of trips to support the learning and putting their knowledge building into a context. From farms, zoos, museums and churches to exploring local rivers to residential trips to outward bound facilities like Rocky River/Robinwood. This promotes the development of the whole child which is central to our belief and vision at St Paul's, 'living life in all its fullness.'