

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S
C of E Primary School

Our Curriculum Offer

Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary School

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C of E Primary School

*Let Your Light **Shine!***

Revised 2025-2026

The Curriculum Aims at Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary

Whinmoor St Paul's aims to provide a knowledge-rich, purposeful and balanced curriculum based on the following principles:

1. To help pupils to develop enquiring minds, the ability to question and argue rationally and to apply themselves to tasks and physical skills
2. To help pupils to acquire deep knowledge in every subject and be provided with skills relevant to adult life and employment in a fast-changing world
3. To enable every pupil to read, use language and numbers efficiently
4. To instil respect for religious values, and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life
5. To help pupils to understand the world in which they live and the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations
6. To help pupils to appreciate human achievements and aspirations
7. To ensure reading really is at the heart of our curriculum and permeates all subjects (developing a love of reading)
8. To develop our children's love of learning

Whilst valuing our children as unique children of God – the future members of our society.

The Whinmoor St Paul's Curriculum

At Whinmoor St Paul's we recognise that all children are entitled to have access to a broad range of learning experiences which allow them to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes necessary for their self-fulfilment and to enable them to play a full part as knowledgeable, responsible citizens in the 21st Century (we refer to this as giving the children opportunities to **'Let your Light Shine!'**) The curriculum aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and to achieve, irrespective of social background, culture, race, gender, differences in ability and disabilities. All this, whilst ensuring our children receive a happy and exciting primary education which ignites and sustains their love of learning. We aim to provide essential skills of reading, writing and maths and information and communication technology, helping them to develop enquiring minds and the ability to think rationally. The curriculum also promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and supports them in developing principles for distinguishing between right and wrong. Pupils are encouraged to think creatively and critically and to respect others and the environments in which they live. The curriculum enables pupils to develop their physical skills and promotes their personal and social well-being. We believe that the curriculum should stimulate enjoyment of, and commitment to, learning as a means of encouraging the best possible progress and the highest attainment for all pupils, preparing them effectively for the next steps in their education.

What makes the curriculum unique at Whinmoor St Paul's Primary?

The children are at the heart of the curriculum

We believe that every child is a unique child of God – the future adult members of our society. We encourage our children to have high aspirations and strive to be the very best they can be. We have extremely high expectations of ourselves and others. We want our children to be responsible, knowledgeable and confident by the time they finish their journey at Whinmoor St Paul's Primary and move onto the next phase of their lives. Over a number of years, we have developed the curriculum that we provide for our children and we review and tweak it on a regular basis to ensure it remains exciting and relevant to the needs of the children and our community. Our main aim is to provide a knowledge-rich, stimulating and connected curriculum. It is important to us that children can make clear connections of concepts across the curriculum. This ensures that our children develop a depth of understanding in all subjects. Through excellently teaching each subject

in our curriculum, we strive to ensure they are relevant and meaningful for our children. We use a number of different approaches to explore and deliver our subjects to ensure our children develop all the knowledge and skills they need to be confident and successful learners. We want our children to be inquisitive and passionate about their learning and spark a desire for lifelong learning.

Every child at Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary School has a voice and we listen to them. We elect the following positions across school:

- School Council
- Eco-Warriors
- Sport's Captains
- Worship Committee
- Food Ambassadors
- Well-being Ambassadors (Upper Key Stage 2)

Reading permeates our whole curriculum

Reading is a fundamental part of life at Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary. Children are given the opportunity to read in many areas of their school life, and we ensure that all pupils leave us with the critical reading skills they will need for successful, happy lives. We promote reading for pleasure through our 'Love of Reading' lessons which enable novels and texts to be understood through art, drama, discussion, play and active learning. In addition to this we have our special reading areas within each class, reading spaces both inside and outside of school, DEAR lessons to develop stamina and our story time sessions. We spend time understanding our children's reading identities (as well as sharing our own) and listen to what our children 'would like to read' purchasing magazine subscriptions, comics etc.

We believe that the Early Years Curriculum is paramount to ensuring children get the best start

Our Early Years setting is welcoming, innovative, reactive and supports our youngest learners in discovering and developing the early building blocks for successful learning. Through a balance of teacher-directed and child initiated learning, children engage in quality learning experiences. The learning environment provides the scaffold to challenge and promote effective learning, both indoors and outdoors. Learning environments provide an exciting context for developing an early love of learning. Language and reading are central to our aims, as well as ensuring our children have an excellent exposure to all areas of learning across the EYFS.

Robust Approaches to English and Mathematics

Daily teaching of English and Mathematics, both as discreet lessons and across the wider curriculum enable our children to reach high standards by the end of both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The whole school's progressive framework for English provides children with real-life and engaging purposes and audiences for reading, writing, speaking and listening. Daily teaching of phonics and spelling is highly interactive and enables children to secure at least age-related expectations in these core basics. Children read widely and often across the curriculum and as a result of this our children achieve excellent standards across the whole curriculum. Our approach to mathematics involves a daily Mathematics session and small bitesize sessions to practise times tables, fluency and key maths facts (KIRFs). Children develop fluency and depth within the curriculum and as a result they grow as confident mathematicians.

The Curriculum

From the time children enter our school, we aim to engage them in the importance and uniqueness of every subject whilst emphasising the relationships between subjects. All children study the full requirements of the

national curriculum across all core and foundation subjects. This ensures that children's cultural capital is developed through acquisition of knowledge, skills and understanding in:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Design Technology
- Religious Education
- Geography
- History
- Computing
- Languages (French and Sign Language)
- Music
- Physical Education
- Art & Design
- Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) including Relationships Education

The following Curriculum Model outlines our key principles of our curriculum.

The heart of our curriculum:

- Subjects
- Values/learner traits/well-being
- Leadership
- Purpose

Components of our curriculum that make it unique:

- Strong connection to the Community
- The Learning Environment (both inside and outside)
- Projects / topics
- Process - a clear build-up of knowledge over time using quality, research-informed teaching

All of which ensure that these elements permeate everything we do:

- Reading
- Relevance
- Retrieval
- Reflection
- Responsiveness

Values/Learners Traits/Well-being

Through our core Christian values, we want to ensure that our school is a place that enables children to learn and play, feel safe, happy and feel valued, where they are able to flourish and experience God's wonderful world in all its fullness. We aim to provide rich, memorable learning experiences which build character in each individual child. Strong relationships underpin all we do where we value and respect each other's uniqueness. We provide the space for all children to flourish and be the best they can be. Our Christian ethos nurtures personal beliefs and attitudes, which enables all to seek meaning through life's journey.

We also believe that developing 'learner traits' such as perseverance, communicator, risk-taker, team player etc are paramount and run through every aspect of Whinmoor St Pauls. They are central to promoting the development of secure, happy, well-adjusted individuals who are equipped for lifelong learning.

Leadership

Leadership is an important aspect at the core of our curriculum. Individual subjects are driven not only by staff subject leaders, but our pupils too. Pupil Voice, is important to how we continue to shape our curriculum. We believe that developing leadership in our children enables them to develop confidence, strength of voice and prepares them for their future education and life.

Purpose

We believe a curriculum with purpose is key to obtaining the best possible outcomes through the curriculum. The purpose is one of the main drivers in a subject and has the potential to motivate, enthuse and inspire our children even more. We believe that a purposeful curriculum motivates, inspires and embeds rich knowledge into our children's working memories.

Community/Experiences

We are passionate about including the whole community in our curriculum. This does not just involve the local community but nationally and internationally. It is important to that our children develop cultural capital, respect and appreciation of the world around them.

Environment

Using the environment to its full potential supports, extends and challenges the development of our curriculum. We are passionate about using the indoors and outdoors to enhance learning opportunities and make the best possible use of promoting learning around school. Children are inspired by our environment, it celebrates our high expectations and encourages children to take pride in everything they do.

Launch Days

Launch Days inspire our children and create a 'hook' into the topic. Children thrive during these lessons and there is always a purpose and an outcome to achieve by the end of the session. They really do serve to create awe and wonder.

Process

The process is incredibly important to help to get to the desired outcome and is planned out very clearly through long and medium term plans. We ensure that every subject area is clearly mapped out to ensure coverage which is age appropriate, challenging and offers children the opportunity to explore the subject in depth. By sharing the process with everyone involved, there is a clear aim and every task is meaningful.

Reading, Relevance, Reflection, Responsive

We believe that these aspects should happen throughout all of these strands above. We strongly believe that Reading is at the absolute heart of our curriculum. Whether it be reactive to current affairs or to children's interests, adapting our curriculum is key to maintaining interest, ensure knowledge is embedded and reacting to what is happening in the world around us, whilst maintaining subject coverage.

Our Topics

We encourage clear links between the different aspects of our children's learning, including opportunities for extended activities which draw different strands of learning together, integrating knowledge, skills and understanding across different areas of the curriculum. This, however, is never at the expense of depth within a subject and therefore our approach is to use both discrete and interdisciplinary subject teaching as appropriate to the context being taught.

Educational Visits

At Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary, our children have the opportunity for Educational Visits throughout the academic year. These visits are planned and provide a focus for learning upon return to school. Again, these real-life opportunities are paramount for our children and often provide fantastic learning opportunities which strengthen the acquisition of knowledge and ignite passion and interest.

Parental/carers Engagement

At least three times during the academic year, our school community has the chance to participate in workshops or galleries linked to each year group's theme and subjects of study. This is a valuable opportunity for staff, parents/carers and children to interact and engage in learning that links to the learning in school.

We believe that these events develop our children's confidence to present the knowledge which they have learnt across all subjects. Articulating out loud, commits their powerful learning to memory.

Cultural Celebrations, links and charity work

As a school we celebrate the major festivals of the Christian year and our daily acts of worship are often supported by the local clergy and other church leaders. Year groups put on Christmas performances for families, we hold a Christingle service and our choir visit local retirement homes.

At the start of the year the School Council help to organise a range of charity events which include both national and local community based charities/organisations.

Careers Education

We want our children to have high aspirations for adult life and embed career learning into the curriculum, developing strong links with businesses and professionals. We integrate these into our yearly whole school assembly schedule as well as our PSHE curriculum. Our Year 6 children hold an Enterprise Week every summer. During this week the children work in teams to run a mini-business. The proceeds are given to the charities chosen by the teams.

Programmes of Study and Knowledge Organisers

All subjects have their own Programme of Study which ensure key sequential learning throughout the whole of Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary. This enables clarity of what, specifically, needs to be taught in each year group. These then feed into separate Knowledge Organisers which outline core knowledge for each topic in every year group.

Twitter

Our curriculum is shared on twitter. Follow us: @WhinmoorStPauls