St. Brendan's Catholic Primary School



Our Curriculum Intent

We are passionate that our children recognise their uniqueness, which is celebrated and respected to enable our pupils to play a positive role in our diverse community, which through their actions, they can make a difference to. We want our children to know they can be the difference in our world, equipped with the knowledge and skills to understand, work collaboratively, demonstrate empathy and resilience to live out our mission statement.

Our curriculum is delivered through linked learning within subject areas, with subject 'drivers' and subject 'enhancers', for example, the driver may be geography and it is enhanced by linked learning in art. The autonomy developed within our children as learners enables them to choose their pathway for learning within lesson time using their cognitive skills to present their understanding through a medium of their choice. Through high expectations in Oracy, children are able to articulate their thinking and progress with peers or adults, recognising the next steps they need to take and the progress they have made with their learning, this begins with solid foundations established in Early Years.

The curriculum is mapped out to ensure that the discipline of reading is taught in every subject area through quality literature and core texts used progressively across the school, in order to expose all children to a range of literature as part of our cultural capital focus. We believe that by focusing on subjects in this way pupils are able to fully immerse themselves in their learning and have time to deepen their understanding. The use of retrieval practices to ensure key knowledge sticks with our children from year to year and is planned into our curriculum. Each child's learning journal documents this for them and encourages our children to make links within their learning from one year to the next. We create spaces for increased deliberate thinking where time is invested in adding more detail and building upon existing knowledge.

We aim for all pupils to leave our school, not only achieving academic success but as confident individuals who are resilient, ready for new challenges, have developed their emotional intelligence and can confidently articulate this. We believe every child can achieve great success when they have the knowledge, tools and skills to support them within our inclusive and loving environment.

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The core principles of our curriculum are:



We believe our faith is the centre of all we do within our catholic school community. We follow Jesus' teaching and walk in his ways to develop our love, respect and understanding of self and others within our diverse world. Our faith encourages us to accept the uniqueness of each individual through always treating others as you would like them to treat you.



Children are aware of the world that we live in today, appreciating and growing in the wonder of creation. They can form opinions and make comparisons with the past, justifying similarities and differences through cognitive development in our teaching and learning approaches. Our children are encouraged to question what their future may look like and use their knowledge to understand diversity and different cultures within our school, parish, local community and wider world. Their ability to take notice develops their emotional intelligence and awareness of self and in others.



We want our children to recognise learning as a lifelong skill that is continuous and knows no boundaries. We aim to instil a love of learning which will grow and develop throughout their lives. In these early stages of each child's learning journey, we set high expectations for everyone in our school community and create the environment for every child to succeed academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. Through confident self-assessment pupils can recognise their achievements, progress and next steps



We believe, that through our mission statement, pupils will encompass an inclusive classroom environment where everyone is challenged to grow and nurtured to flourish. We work collaboratively to share and develop our skills, knowledge and understanding together to improve ourselves and to support others. We support charitable causes within our school community, locality, nationally and globally to ensure our pupils understand the world we live in and the varying differences between people's lives. We give time to question, assess and deepen our knowledge and understanding to ensure all learning is linked to the bigger picture for each child, knowing the service they can give to others.



We strive to ensure our children are able to connect with one another and with their feelings to enable everyone to feel safe and happy. We believe that wellbeing is the foundation to life-long learning. Children are encouraged and given opportunities to make connections between subjects, which enables them to transfer learning into different contexts through a rich cultural capital. Our curriculum allows children to develop and link their knowledge through each key stage of their St Brendan's life and beyond.



Children and staff actively engaging with their learning is at the core of our curriculum. They actively ask questions, search for solutions, solve problems, and give detailed reasoning to deepen their own knowledge. Focusing on the whole child, we encompass physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing to create well-rounded individuals with a healthy understanding of themselves as they enter the wider world, confident in their articulation of self and their learning.