St Ives Primary and Nursery School

Curriculum Policy

Inspiring bright futures and minds

Overview and information

- This policy provides an overarching framework that translates the values and aims of the school into effective teaching and learning
- The policy covers both the National Curriculum, which provides the legal foundation and secures an entitlement for all pupils, and all that is learned in school, formally and informally, and within and beyond the school day
- The policy establishes principles against which other policies and procedures can be developed or checked so that they are consistent and coherent
- The legal requirement includes: teaching the National Curriculum, religious education and sex education to secondary age pupils; teaching about drugs as per the science element of the National Curriculum; providing a daily act of collective worship; avoiding political bias; providing careers education and guidance with access to specialist support; making provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs; deciding whether to disapply aspects of the curriculum to provide more time for other aspects (such as the work-related curriculum or basic skills); and establishing procedures for dealing with complaints
- The policy embraces policies and procedures for admissions, assessment, careers education and guidance, charging, collective worship, drug education, equal opportunities, health and safety, homework, lettings, nutritional standards, performance management, race equality, school visits, session times, SEN, sex education, staff discipline, and teaching and learning

The Local Schools Committee

The Local Schools Committee receives an annual report from the Headteacher on standards, detailing:

- Year groups
- Comparisons with national averages and similar schools nationally and for the LEA
- Gender; ethnicity; special educational needs
- Pupils for whom the curriculum was disapplied
- The evidence of the impact of national strategies on standards
- The views of staff about the action required to improve standards
- The nature of any parental complaints concerning the curriculum

Curriculum

All children have a right to a broad, balanced and relevant education which provides continuity and progression and takes individual differences into account. Work in school should be planned to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum.

The school aims to:

- Cater for the needs of individual children of both sexes from all ethnic and social groups, including the most able and those who are experiencing learning difficulties
- Facilitate children's acquisition of knowledge, skills and qualities which will help them to develop intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically, morally and aesthetically, so that they may become independent, responsible, useful, thinking, confident and considerate members of the community
- Create and maintain an exciting and stimulating learning environment
- Ensure that each child's education has continuity and progression
- Ensure that there is a match between the child and the tasks s/he is asked to perform
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum
- Recognise the crucial role which parents play in their children's education and make every effort to encourage parental involvement in the educational process
- Treat children in a dignified way

We aim that all children should

- Learn: to be adaptable; how to solve problems in a variety of situations; how to work independently and as members of a team
- Develop the ability to make reasoned judgements and choices, based on interpretation and evaluation of relevant information from a variety of sources
- Be happy, cheerful and well balanced
- Be enthusiastic and eager to put their best into all activities
- Begin acquiring a set of moral values, such as honesty, sincerity, personal responsibility, on which to base their own behaviour
- Be expected to behave in a dignified and acceptable way and learn to become responsible for their actions
- Care for and take pride in their school
- Develop tolerance, respect and appreciation of the feelings and capabilities of others in an unbiased way
- Develop non-sexist and non-racist attitudes
- Know how to think and solve problems mathematically in a variety of situations using concepts of number, algebra, measurement, shape and space, and handling data
- Be able to listen and read for a variety of purposes and be able to convey their meaning accurately and appropriately through speech and writing for a variety of purposes
- Develop an enquiring mind and scientific approach to problems
- Have an opportunity to solve problems using technological skills

- Be capable of communicating their knowledge and feelings through various art forms including art/craft, music, drama and be acquiring appropriate techniques which will enable them to develop their inventiveness and creativity
- Know about geographical, historical and social aspects of the local environment and national heritage and be aware of other times and places and recognise links among family, local, national and international events
- Have some knowledge of the beliefs of the major world religions
- Develop agility, physical co-ordination and confidence in and through movement
- Know how to apply the basic principles of health, hygiene and safety

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed: February 2026

Next review date: February 2027