

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Curriculum Intent



Our Curriculum is delivered through:

- Teaching the programmes of Study from 2014 National Curriculum
- Educational Visits including residential trips
- Forest School – we are extremely fortunate to have our own forest and a trained Forest School leader
- After school clubs which are run by our staff and are free.
- Opportunities for children to take the lead: chaplaincy team, house captains and prefects
- Throughout the year, children are encouraged to raise money for local and global causes
- Visitors come into school to enhance the learning taking place by sharing their experience and knowledge

Through our planned activities, children have opportunities to be creative, to be physically active and to be academically challenged. Our curriculum is enriched by our strong ethos based on respect for ourselves, others, the environment, equality and a sense of wonder at the world we live in.

Our school curriculum reflects the requirements to provide a broad and balanced curriculum as per the [Academies Act 2010](#), and the [National Curriculum programmes of study](#) which we have chosen to follow.

It also reflects requirements for inclusion and equality as set out in the [Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014](#) and [Equality Act 2010](#) (opens in new tab), and refers to curriculum-related expectations of governing boards set out in the Department for Education's [Governance Handbook](#).

At Holy Cross we believe, most deeply, that we are all created uniquely by God and that he has a purpose for us all. As such, we encourage and inspire our pupils to do their best, to reach their full potential, to become independent thinkers with enquiring minds, able to rise to the challenges of life. To reach their potential and discover their gifts we provide them with a broad curriculum, tailored to their needs where knowledge is highly valued and skills are taught and honed. This requires commitment, application, perseverance and courage and these qualities need to be specifically promoted throughout all areas of school and home life. At Holy Cross we have addressed this by being part of the Routes to Resilience program, the components of which we have incorporated into all aspects of our school curriculum and life. We have designed our curriculum so that subjects are planned and taught in a cohesive and chronological way with knowledge building on knowledge and children knowing how it is connected. This promotes the development of subject specific vocabulary and knowledge that can be applied beyond narrow subject boundaries and retained. Where possible we also use our local area to give a context to learning and to increase pupil's knowledge of their surroundings. This includes visiting other towns, cities, museums and exhibitions enabling our pupils to experience the diversity of their local area. On site we have our forest area which is used regularly by classes; promoting the environment as a learning area where problems are solved and new skills learnt. The school also has Geckos and Chickens and these are a part of our school to promote responsibility, empathy and to broaden the learning experience of Holy Cross. All of the above sits around the more formal curriculum.