

St Anselm's School Curriculum

Learning and growing together through prayer, belief and love

In Reception classes, the children experience the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum delivered across seven areas of learning: Communication and Language; Physical Development; Personal, Social and Emotional Development; Literacy; Mathematics; Understanding the World; Expressive Arts and Design.

The National Curriculum is taught in Year 1 to Year 6. However, the curriculum is enriched and personalised at St Anselm's to ensure that it is broad and balanced with a wide range of enrichment opportunities that serve our local context.

Religious Education (RE)

We aim to be a witnessing community, assisting parents in the task of helping children to know God and experience the Christian faith at home and at school. To help the children develop knowledge of their faith, the school uses *The Way, The Truth and The Life* RE programme which is informed by the 'Catechism of the Catholic Church' and the Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools. The curriculum content is:

Revelation; Story, Scripture, Memory and Tradition of the Church

Church; Community, Discipleship, Witness

Celebration; Sacrament, Ritual, Prayer, Worship, Liturgy

Life in Christ; Lifestyle, Morality, Values, Attitudes

The Wednesday Word is used in all year groups to further support the pupils' spiritual development and to encourage strong home, school and parish links. The Catholic life of the school is enriched with whole school attendance at Mass to celebrate the beginning and end of terms. Children from different year groups take it in turn to prepare the readings and lead the Mass.

Year groups 4-6 prepare and lead Masses in church twice a year and non-Eucharistic liturgies are prepared by pupils in years R-3. Year 3 prepare and lead a Mass in the term following their First Holy Communion.

The Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher lead weekly key stage assemblies to promote the spiritual and moral development of pupils and staff. All class assemblies have a strong religious focus and are shared with parents as well as the school community. The school is supported by our Parish Priest, Fr Guy Sawyer.

English

The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Read easily, fluently and with good understanding.
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information.
- Acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.
- Appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage.
- Write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.
- Use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas.
- Are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

The aims of the national curriculum for English are taught through;

- Spoken Language
- Reading – word reading and comprehension.
- Writing – transcription, handwriting, composition, spelling, vocabulary, grammar and punctuation.

At St Anselm's we recognise that English is of vital importance to us all. Therefore, teaching is structured to ensure that the elements of speaking and listening, reading, writing and spelling, vocabulary and punctuation are integrated. Children are encouraged and helped to speak clearly, confidently and with expression in order to communicate ideas and feelings and to listen to others and respond appropriately. All children are provided with opportunities in all areas of the curriculum to develop skills in spoken language, including through drama and role play.

In EYFS and KS1 Phonics are taught daily. The teaching of phonics is based upon the *Letters and Sounds publication*, which is supplemented by the use of *Jolly Phonics*. The children are taught to read a range of materials fluently and with understanding, for enjoyment and information. Our reading programme ensures that children are taught to use a range of strategies, e.g., phonics, word recognition, use of context - to help them make sense of what they read.

To assist with this we use a wide range of books including those within reading schemes, fiction and non-fiction texts, poetry and plays. We place a strong emphasis on reading comprehension and to this end the children are taught how to read for meaning. We believe it is essential for children to read as wide a range of literature as possible. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in helping their child/ children to learn to read.

Children are helped to develop the ability to express their thoughts and ideas and communication skills through the written word. We aim to ensure that children develop a strong command of English through the correct use of punctuation, spelling, grammar and correct letter formation. Opportunities are provided for children to develop the necessary writing skills required for different purposes and audiences. The link between reading and writing is strongly emphasised.

The school believes that there is a close relationship between handwriting and spelling. The children are helped to use joined up writing early on, so that the flow of the hand takes them through the word. Looking back at their work they are encouraged to see which words do not appear to be correct.

Mathematics

The national curriculum for mathematics aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, including through varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that pupils develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately.
- **Reason mathematically** by following a line of enquiry, conjecturing relationships and generalisations, and developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language.
- Can **solve problems** by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.

Mathematics is a creative and interconnected subject. At St Anselm's, we aim to provide a high-quality mathematics education that will enable the children to make rich connections across mathematical ideas to develop fluency, mathematical reasoning and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems. We wish the children to gain a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject and to apply their mathematical knowledge to science and other subjects.

The content of the national curriculum for mathematics is;

- Number – number and place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions.
- Decimals (Years 4, 5 & 6)
- Percentages (Years 5 & 6)
- Measurement
- Geometry – properties of shape, position and direction.
- Statistics

Science

The national curriculum for science aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop **scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding** through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.
- Develop understanding of the **nature, processes and methods of science** through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them.
- Are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the **uses and implications** of science, today and for the future.

At St Anselm's, the practical nature of science is promoted to stimulate children's curiosity about the world we live in. The children use first hand experiences and investigations to explore, discover and gain scientific knowledge. They are encouraged to investigate problems through close observations, planning, predicting and fair testing.

The curriculum for science is taught through the topics;

Year 1- Seasonal Changes, Plants, Animals & Humans, Everyday Materials.

Year 2 - Living things and their habitats, Uses of Everyday Materials, Animals including Humans.

Year 3 - Animals including humans, Plants, Rocks, Forces and Magnets, Light.

Year 4 - Living things and their habitats, States of Matter, Animals including Humans, Sound, Electricity.

Year 5 - Animals including Humans, Earth and Space, Properties and changes of materials, Forces, Living things and their Habitats.

Year 6 - Animals including Humans, Living things and their Habitats, Light, Electricity, Evolution and Inheritance.

Computing

The national curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation.
- Can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems.
- Can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems.
- Are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

The Computing curriculum at St Anselm's, sets out to equip pupils to use computational thinking and creativity in their work. It also ensures that pupils become digitally literate and are able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology. The school is wireless enabled and has an up-to-date suite of computers and trolleys of laptops, all networked.

This provides the children with exciting opportunities to develop their ICT skills and to access information. Increased capability in the use of ICT promotes initiative and independent learning with children being able to make informed judgements about when and where to use ICT to the best effect. The school also has a range of programs which are designed to broaden children's understanding in many of the curriculum subjects.

The curriculum for computing is taught through the topics;

Year 1 - We are storytellers, We are treasure hunters, We are TV chefs, We are painters, We are collectors, We are celebrating.

Year 2 - We are detectives, We are game testers, We are photographers, We are zoologists, We are researchers, We are astronauts.

Year 3 - We are programmers, We are bug fixers, We are network engineers, We are communicators, We are opinion pollsters, We are presenters.

Year 4 - We are software developers, We are toy designers, We are meteorologists, We are musicians, We are HTML editors, We are co-authors.

Year 5 - We are game developers, We are cryptographers, We are artists, We are web developers, We are bloggers, We are architects.

Year 6 - We are app planners, We are project managers, We are market researchers, We are interface designers, We are app developers, We are marketers.

Music

The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Music is essentially a practical subject and is a strength of our school. Children are encouraged to sing, compose and use percussion instruments in order to develop their creative skills. The school provides all children during Year 3 with the opportunity to learn to play the recorder. All children receive weekly singing practice and pupils are encouraged to join the school choir from Year 4. Currently, children can choose to have individual instrumental lessons learning the guitar, violin all taught by peripatetic music teachers.

The national curriculum for music is taught through the topics;

Year 1 - Ourselves and Music, Nativity carols, Musical Opposites, Sound and Hearing, Musical Maths, Festivals and Celebrations.

Year 2 - Patterns in Music, Keeping the Beat, More Musical Opposites, Stories and Music- Peter and the Wolf, Music through time and places.

Year 3 - Recorder - Introduction to music theory, Nativity carols and music, Recorder Posture, Time Signatures, Rests, Performance.

Year 4 - Music and Dance around the World, Composing, Ostinato, Rhythm. Patterns, Exploring Voices, Music WO Project.

Year 5 - The Orchestra -Bach, Appraising Music from the Opera - Verdi, Musical Interpretations, Popular Style Anthems and Festivals.

Year 6 - Music and Poetry, Holst - the Planets, Music in History, Exploring Song Writing, Popular Styles Blues, Musicals.

Art and design

The national curriculum for art and design aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences.
- Become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques.
- Evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design.
- Know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

At St Anselm's, we believe that art stimulates creativity and imagination. It is a natural form of expression and a source of great pleasure. We encourage children to develop their creative and imaginative talents through learning skills and techniques, using a variety of materials and tools. Children actively explore a range of artists' work.

The aims of the national curriculum for art and design are taught through the topics;

Year 1 - Self Portraits Painting/Drawing - Paul Klee, Henri Rousseau, Collage-Seasonal Changes, Textiles, Puppets, Weaving.

Year 2 - Printing, Drawing, Painting, Collage, 3-D structures, Sewing.

Year 3 - Drawing/Painting, Colour Mixing, Patterns, Printmaking, 3-D Clay modelling linked to English, History and R.E. topics.

Year 4 - Collage, Portraiture, Variety of Artists, Tie Dye, Tudor Clothing, Impressionists, printing from around the world.

Year 5 - Drawing Still Life, Painting, Portraits, Fruit Cross Sectional, Sketching views, Pop Art, experimenting with different media.

Year 6 - Printmaking, 3-D Moving Images, Photo Stories, Self Portraits, Clay Modelling, Art work using pastels, charcoal & watercolours.

History

The national curriculum for history aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world.
- Know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind.
- Gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry'.
- Understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.
- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.
- Gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

At St Anselm's through the history curriculum we aim to fire pupils' curiosity about the past in Britain and the wider world and help them to appreciate our customs, beliefs and traditions and those of other cultures.

The history curriculum is taught through the topics;

Year 1 - First Flight, Black History, What was Life like when our grandparents were children? How our food changed over time.

Year 2 - Great Fire of London, Black History, Who are our Local Heroes? Who were the greatest explorers?

Year 3 - Stone Age, Black History, The Bronze and Iron Ages, How much did the Ancient Egyptians achieve?

Year 4 - The Romans, Black History, Victorians, Tudor Britain.

Year 5 - Anglo Saxons and the Vikings, Black History, World War one, Ancient Greeks.

Year 6 - World War Two - impact our local area, Black History, The Mayan Civilisation, How has communication changed over time?

Geography

The national curriculum for geography has three distinct strands; Locational Knowledge, Human and Physical Geography and Geographical skills and Field Work. Pupils are taught to:

- Develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.
- Understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- Are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
- Collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes.
- Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

At St Anselm's the geography curriculum is delivered through the following topics;

Year 1 - What's it like where we live? Where do different animals live? Where does our food come from?

Year 2 - What will we see on our journey around the world? What are the seven wonders of our world? What are seasons?

Year 3 - Where on earth are we? Is climate cool? Do you like to be beside the seaside?

Year 4 - Can you come on a great American road trip? How does water go round and round? Can the Earth shake, rattle and roll?

Year 5 - Where should we go on holiday? Where does all of our stuff come from? How is our country changing?

Year 6 - What is it like in the Amazon? Are we damaging our world? How will our world look in the future?

Physical Education (PE)

The national curriculum for physical education aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities.
- Are physically active for sustained periods of time.
- Engage in competitive sports and activities.
- Lead healthy, active lives.

PE activities at St Anselm's help pupils to develop their fitness, agility, co-ordination and confidence and lead them to enjoy many sports. All children have two sessions of PE weekly. Children are given many opportunities to participate in intra and inter sports competitions. Pupils have swimming lessons in Year 4.

In delivering the aims of the national curriculum, pupils are taught to;

- Master basic fundamental movement skills including; running, jumping, throwing and catching, as well as developing balance, agility and co-ordination, and begin to apply these in a range of activities.
- Develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance.
- Play competitive games, modified where appropriate and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.
- Perform dance routines using simple movement patterns.
- Take part in outdoor and adventurous activity challenges both individually and within a team.

Skills are taught and developed in relevant year groups:

Years 1 & 2 - Gymnastics, Fundamental Movement Skills, Ball Skills, Dance and Athletics.

Year 4 - Gymnastics, Ball Skills, Invasion Games, Team Games, Dance, Athletics and Swimming.

Years 3 & 5 – Gymnastics, Ball Skills, Invasion Games, Team Games, Dance, Athletics.

Year 6 - Gymnastics, Ball Skills, Invasion Games, Team Games, Dance, Athletics, Outdoor and Adventurous Activities.

Design and Technology (DT)

The national curriculum for design and technology aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world.
- Build and apply a repertoire of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make high-quality prototypes and products for a wide range of users.
- Critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others.
- Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

The aims of the national curriculum for design and technology are delivered through the topics;

Year 1- Mechanisms: Sliders & Levers, Textiles-joining materials.

Year 2 - Mechanisms: Wheels & axles, Food preparation of fruit & vegetables.

Year 3 - Mechanisms: Levers & Linkages, Healthy food.

Year 4 - Textiles: 2d shape to 3D product, Shell structures, Electrical Systems: Simple circuits and Switches.

Year 5 - Mechanical systems: Pulleys and gears, Frame structures, Textiles: Combining different fabric shapes.

Year 6 - Electrical systems: Complex switches and circuits, Food.

Foreign language

the national curriculum for language requires that pupils are taught to;

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help*
- Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases*
- Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences*
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
- Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
- Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
- Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing.

French is the modern foreign language taught in KS2, (Years 3-6) at St Anselm's. The teaching provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language. We aim to enable pupils to understand and communicate ideas, facts and feelings in conversation and writing.

Sex and Relationships Education

Parents are primarily responsible for helping their children gain knowledge of, and develop respect for, love and loving relationships. The school's sex and relationship education programme is designed to help parents in this area. The teaching covers the emotional, physical and sociological aspects of relationships.