



CURRICULUM PLAN

LOWER JUNIORS

OVERVIEW

English is vital in all areas of education and in society; it is only through being able to read, write and speak fluently that we can communicate our ideas and emotions and make sense of the world around us. Research shows that regular reading for pleasure benefits many areas of a student's development, so we have an enthusiastic, school-wide aim to promote a love of reading. All students have access to a wide range of literature, through which to gain and expand knowledge, enhance vocabulary skills and develop their understanding of the written word. Our curriculum in Lower Juniors is designed as a three year cycle to ensure the coverage of all areas of the national curriculum covered in years 3, 4 and 5.

LITERACY

Reading.

At All Saints School we aim for all students to have a reading age of minimum 9 years by the time they leave our school. At All Saints School, we not only teach the fundamental skills of reading but also nurture children's reading attitudes and behaviour with the aim that all children read for pleasure. We have recently bought into the Fresh Start reading scheme, in which students follow a targeted programme that teaches them to sound out, blend in and read. Spelling is an integrated part of the Fresh Start scheme.

Writing.

The teaching of writing is delivered in a creative, stimulating and cross-curricular way, linked with the topic. Children are taught through a writing process where they are introduced to the different types of writing (genres) through a stimulus which could be a text, extract or film clip. From these stimuli children are able to unpick the key features in order to plan and create their own piece of writing. The teaching of grammar is also an integral part of all Literacy lessons and children are taught how to punctuate and structure their writing correctly, becoming fluent with the relevant terminology.

Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening skills are fundamental to children's progress in all areas of the curriculum, and the need for effective oral communication is vital to develop and enhance life skills. At All Saints we value and seek to develop children's speaking and listening skills as an integral part of the school curriculum and prepare children to establish positive relationships inside and outside the school with the ability to communicate thoughts, feelings and ideas confidently and successfully. Our aims are to develop children's speaking and listening skills through a wide range of opportunities, to value children's contributions during discussions, to encourage all children to listen carefully and actively, valuing and responding to others viewpoints and opinions, to enable children to speak audibly, clearly and confidently in 1 to 1, group and whole class situations in a variety of contexts, to help children understand how to adapt their use of language, varying use in relation to purpose and audience, to encourage children to develop proficiency in Standards English as well as promote a respect for other language and dialects, to raise children's attainment in writing

	through their ability to initially express themselves effectively orally in order to produce writing of a higher quality.
MATHS	<p>We recognise the diversity of our students and the support that is needed to develop mathematical fluency, reasoning and potential in each student. In order to achieve this, Maths is taught in “Stages” (based on students current mathematical understanding) rather than in year groups. This allows teaching to be focused at a level appropriate to students and allows teachers to support any gaps in understanding, misconceptions and allows for consolidation of topics. Students build on their knowledge as they move through the Stages (there are 6 Stages in KS2/KS3). Students begin at the school at the Stage which is appropriate for them and progress through the Stages based on the development of their own mathematical knowledge. This method of teaching ensures students’ progress at the rate that is right for them.</p> <p>The Stages schemes of work have been designed to broadly cover the KS2 and KS3 Maths National Curriculum. Focus in the earlier Stages is on gaining a secure understanding in numeracy and fluency in using the four operations (including times tables) as well as developing an understanding of geometry, statistics, measures, fractions and time. As students progress through the Stages further topics from the KS2 and KS3 Curriculums are included (such as algebra, ratio and probability). Underpinning this is our aim to develop each student’s confidence, fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills.</p>
SCIENCE	<p>Science is one of the core curriculum subjects and our exciting Lower Juniors Science lessons will follow the National Curriculum and introduce students to the ideas, concepts and ways of working that will be developed as they journey through the school. The lower Junior class is taught their Science in a three year cycle of topics which cover Y3 to Y5 National curriculum topics. Students are taught in half termly modules and each is given appropriate work to match both their age and ability as they progress. We aim for the teaching of Science to be of a practical nature, allowing children to explore the world around them, whilst ensuring they are provided with, and engaged in, practical first hand experiences and investigations. This approach is fundamental to the acquisitions of both scientific knowledge and skills.</p> <p>Each Science unit begins with pre-learning, followed by enquiry led learning with questions that can be investigated to make the learning more relevant. Children will be expected to be able to identify differing plants, flowers, trees and grasses as part of this, talk about different forces, know about and follow a healthy diet, identify planets of the solar system as well as the animals in specific habitats.</p>

HUMANITIES

History

At All Saints School, the study of History provides opportunities for the pupils to experience and, where appropriate, to develop some understanding of events and people of different times and places. History enriches the curriculum by offering our pupils to be actively involved in exploring the world around them. This is achieved through exploring and handling artefacts, visiting places (locally and further afield), stories, books, photos and through practical craft activities linked to particular topics. Learning about the past, how it has influenced and shaped our lives, beliefs, and customs, helps pupils to make sense of the world in which they live. Through the teaching of History, we can structure and expand our pupils' knowledge and understanding of the past and encourage their investigation of it.

At All Saints, this is approached in a practical, child-centred manner. It is the study of the relevant past, with pupils being actively involved, experiencing, investigating, and using a range of sources of information. The pupil is the investigator and their task is to progressively investigate the world beyond themselves. Linked with other subjects, History provides a range of experiences and achievements, which contributes to the richness of pupils' lives according to individual needs and abilities.

Geography

Geography is essentially about the study of places, the human and physical processes, which shape them, and the people who live in them. Skills developed through Geography help pupils to make sense of their surroundings and the wider world. At All Saints, Geography is approached in a practical manner. The child is the explorer and their task is to progressively discover the world beyond themselves. Geography is exciting, enjoyable, and relevant to the explorer. It allows success and generates feelings of worth and wonder.

At KS2 the study of Geography allows our pupils to explore, experience and develop an understanding of such areas as their local environment, e.g. their school, the weather, jobs, water, maps, directions and exploring the differences between the country and the town.