



Curriculum Overview

LOWER JUNIORS (see subject curriculum overviews for PHSE, PE, Art, Music, Drama, Computing and Philosophy and Ethics.)

Overview

Our curriculum in the Lower Junior class 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. All lessons are adapted to support with barriers to learning, while maintaining high expectations for all pupils. Our staff plan with a detailed understanding of students needs as identified in EHCPs but also with a deep knowledge of our children as individuals . Play is valued and learning approaches involve Drama, Art , lots of talking and carefully planned trips to support the curriculum content. It is very typical to hear laughter from the Lower Junior classroom and all students are welcomed and encouraged to feel safe to express their individuality. The learning that happens in our classroom underpins all future learning at All Saints and our curriculum is carefully sequenced to ensure all our learners are challenged and supported.

Learning is assessed against the statements on our own bespoke frameworks (covering National Curriculum objectives) which are accessible through Arbor (the School's chosen Management Information System) and allow progress to be measured in small steps to meet individual needs. This is analysed termly by Subject leads and monitored by SLT. Where required, interventions are discussed with the class teacher, actioned and reviewed.

LITERACY

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, we have an enthusiastic, school-wide aim to promote a love of reading and this begins in the Lower Juniors. All students have access to a wide range of literature, through which to gain and expand knowledge of themselves and the world, enhance vocabulary skills and develop their understanding of the written word.

Reading.

Reading at All Saints School is ambitious and carefully sequenced to ensure pupils make strong progress from their individual starting points. Through systematic phonics, repeated practice and exposure to increasingly complex texts, pupils develop fluency, accuracy and comprehension over time and in line with their own capabilities. 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 use 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 and is also taught within classes. We use Reading + to improve reading ages and speed as well as Reading Groups with carefully chosen texts for students who have finished the Fresh Start scheme. Stories weave through the Lower Junior curriculum and we often use drama techniques to bring texts to life.

	<p>Writing. Writing is taught through a clearly sequenced process which builds pupils' stamina, sentence construction, vocabulary and independence over time, enabling them to apply their skills confidently across subjects. Lessons are 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. All students are taught with an awareness of the needs outlined on the EHCPs and with a deep understanding of them as individuals and are encouraged to make progress at their own pace rather than moved through skills as a whole class. 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.</p>
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 We introduced the Grammarsaurus Science curriculum in January 2025. 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 acquisition 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 different plants, flowers, trees and grasses as part</p>

	<p>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>
<p>HUMANITIES</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

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