



Curriculum Intent Statement

At Elvington Church of England Primary School, we believe in a broad and balanced curriculum where all subjects are valued. A broad and balanced curriculum will equip our children with a breadth of knowledge and skills in all areas of the curriculum.

Rationale:

The fundamental aim of Elvington Church of England Primary School is to provide opportunities for children to develop as independent, confident, successful learners with high aspirations; creating citizens of the future who know how to make a positive contribution to their community and the wider society.

Expectations:

We aim for all learners to enjoy their education and make sustained progress in all areas of the curriculum. Pupils' at all academic levels are helped to achieve their potential. Those who are most able are challenged and supported through appropriate extension activities. Those who find aspects of their learning challenging are encouraged and given targeted support to embed skills, to develop at their own pace or simply to learn in a style that best suits their individual needs.

Knowledge and skills:

The school's focus on curriculum development has been carefully designed to ensure coverage and progression. It provides pupils with memorable experiences, in addition to diverse and rich opportunities from which children can learn and develop a range of transferable skills. The children's own community is frequently used as a starting point for engaging interest. A primary focus of our curriculum is to raise aspirations (Growth Mindset), engender a sense of personal pride in achievement, resilience and provide a purpose and relevance for learning.

Cultural Capital:

At Elvington there is a significant focus on developing children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding. We aim to combine high quality teaching with enjoyment of learning, whilst developing and preserving the Christian character of Elvington Church of England Primary School. High professional standards, Christian values and strong links with our local community are the basis on which we seek to work with our extended school family, recognising and responding to the special worth, needs and potential of each individual. We are a Christian foundation serving the whole community, embodying our school values of **Respect, Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance, Friendship** and **Hope** in our nurture and encouragement of all.

Our Principles for Learning and Teaching

As a staff, we believe our curriculum enables:

- All children to be engaged in their learning and to be active learners; discovering and investigating.
- All children to understand what they have achieved and know what to do to make progress.
- All children to be independent, enthusiastic and self-motivated learners; raising their own questions.
- All children to time to evaluate and reflect on their learning.
- All children to receive teaching that inspires their learning.
- All children to receive teaching that encourages them to be creative.

- All children to be challenged and enjoy their learning.
- All children to develop spiritually, morally and as members of their community and the wider community.

Our children would like a curriculum that:

- *Is fun and fantastic!*
- *Involves our parents in our learning.*
- *Makes use of our outdoor space.*
- *Allows us to have a voice.*
- *Makes us feel like explorers.*

Comments made by children across all five of our classes...

Curriculum implementation:

Elvington engages all learning styles using a variety of resources which support the teaching of the curriculum. The wider learning culture is promoted through our school values of 'Respect, Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance, Friendship and Hope' and through a culture of our aspirational 'Elvington Growth Mindset'.

Curriculum Design:

Our curriculum is built through a thematic, topic-based approach which makes connections in skills and knowledge within a variety of subject areas (Schema theory of learning).



Where appropriate, we block learning in order to immerse children fully. Where relevant and possible, we offer enrichment activities to motivate, excite and inspire pupils in the form of 'Stunning Starts', 'Marvellous Middles' and 'Fabulous Finishes' – these may take the form of trips, visitors, theme days, Sharing Collective Worship, exhibitions etc..

We link our topics to key texts that will enrich language and provide context to learning; our topics will be learning challenges based around a key question 'the big question' as a starting point e.g. 'What was it like to be a child during WW2?', 'What impact does plastic pollution have on our planet?' Creatively produced topic books give children a sense of pride in the presentation of their work.

Our curriculum design is represented as a tree with our school values as the roots:

