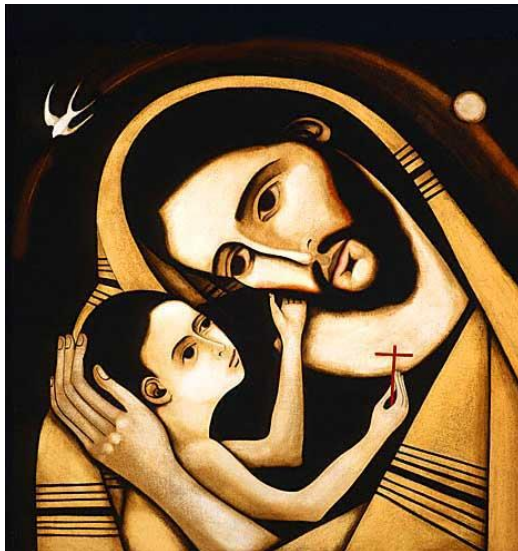




# **St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School Clydach**



## **Curriculum Policy**

Date of Review: January 2020

Signature:

## **School Mission Statement**

**‘Together in Christ – Living, Learning and Growing.’**

## **CURRICULUM POLICY**

### **The School Curriculum**

At St. Joseph’s Primary we believe a well planned curriculum is vital to prevent underachievement and to raise overall standards.

All curriculum planning shows that:

- it is broad, balanced and differentiated.
- it is flexible to cater for children who are at different stages of development.
- it takes into account prior learning and attainment.
- educational provision is holistic, and the child is at the centre of all planning.
- there is a balance between structured learning through child-initiated activities and those directed by adults.
- the activities inspire and challenge children’s potential for learning.
- Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity is being developed across the curriculum.

St. Joseph’s is a Voluntary Aided Catholic School and the Catholic Christian ethos is to be found across the whole curriculum. There is a specific modern programme which encourages facets of Christian development, the ‘Come and See’ programme. This includes the celebration of the liturgy and other forms of prayer, which are an integral part of the school. School assemblies are meaningful events in which all classes take part. All pupils attend Holy Mass when it is celebrated during school time.

At St. Joseph’s our Equal Opportunities Policy means that all pupils are entitled to participate fully in the whole school curriculum. The school is committed to a positive policy of promoting equal opportunities, and eliminating any unlawful or unfair discrimination, by providing equal opportunities for all pupils in all aspects of the curriculum.

- We encourage respect for, and tolerance of people of different gender, race, religion and way of life.
- We assess our teaching materials and resources, and also examine the organisation of the school for gender bias.
- We work towards ensuring a Catholic Christian school community based on mutual respect, offering equal opportunities for everyone.

### **Foundation Phase**

#### **Developing skills across the curriculum:**

## **Areas of Learning**

There are seven areas of learning which provide an appropriate curriculum that supports the development of children and their skills. We believe that these seven areas must complement each other and work together to provide a cross-curricular approach to form a practical relevant curriculum for each child.

The seven areas of learning are:

- Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity
- Language, Literacy and Communication Skills
- Mathematical Development
- Welsh Development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development

The school operates a broad curriculum which is mainly based on the child's experience. We follow guidelines laid down by the National Curriculum documents for KS2 and those given by the City and County of Swansea Education Authority.

1. Moral and Religious Education
2. Language
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Design and Technology
6. I.C.T.
7. Geography
8. History
9. Art
10. Physical Education
11. Music
12. Welsh
13. P.S.E.

There are no subject choices - all pupils cover the above subjects.

Written policies exist for all curriculum areas and are regularly reviewed and developed. The curriculum is subject orientated but where cross-curricular links occur these are used to enhance pupils' learning.

Moral and Religious Education permeates the atmosphere of the school which awakens healthy competition and develops a team spirit. All members of staff have special responsibilities for areas of the curriculum.

A particular emphasis is placed on literacy and numeracy across the curriculum, especially with the introduction of the Literacy and Numeracy Framework. High

standards are expected and the ethos of the school is to develop highly motivated pupils who will achieve their maximum potential.

All classes are mixed ability and teachers will plan activities according to the differing abilities within their class. Pupils will experience class, group and individual teaching.

Academic and social developments are continually monitored and assessed.

Parents are expected to play an active part in their child's education. Parents' Evenings are arranged three times a year and parents can meet with teachers at other times, having beforehand made the necessary arrangements with the Headteacher.

Complaints about the curriculum or any related matter should be taken to the Governing Body of the school.

### **Special Educational Needs**

There is a clear written policy on Special Educational Needs which gives all staff guidance on catering for children in this category. Children with Special Educational Needs are taught in mainstream classes and are supported in class or withdrawn from class and catered for individually or in small groups. Progress is monitored and assessed and full consultation takes place with parents in accordance with the Special Needs Code of Practice.

The consultation process also involves representatives of the Local Education Authority and other schools to which our children transfer.

The school encourages close links with parents of pupils with Special Educational Needs, who need not hesitate to contact the Headteacher should they have any concerns regarding their child's progress.

### **Use of Welsh Language**

Welsh is taught as a second language and is also used incidentally throughout the school. Members of staff regularly attend courses to further their expertise in speaking and teaching the language. An advisory teacher for Welsh visits the school regularly. An annual Cwrwclwm Cymerig Week and Eisteddfod is held to celebrate St. David's Day, giving pupils the opportunity to use the Welsh language and share their Welsh cultural experiences. The introduction of 'Slot Drillio' everyday will continue to raise the profile of Welsh within the school.

## **Sport**

The school aims to develop pupils' physical skills to the full. The emphasis is firmly on taking part and enjoyment. There are opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities - gymnastics, dance, organised games, athletics, cross country running, golf and outdoor adventure activities. Pupils represent the school at football, rugby, cricket, netball, short tennis, cross country and athletics. Regular fixtures are arranged with other schools. Year 5 and 6 pupils play bowls during the summer term guided by qualified coaches. Key Stage 2 pupils attend swimming lessons at Penlan Leisure Centre during the year.

## **Personal and Social Education**

It is the policy of the school not to give formal Sex Instruction. Questions and matters relating are dealt with naturally and sensitively when the need arises. Parents of pupils in Year 6 are notified in the Summer term with regard to our "Health and Hygiene Programme". The school nurse implements this using the Diocesan scheme 'All That I Am'.

Child Protection - The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is at the heart of our school's planning, policies, practice and ethos.

As a rights- respecting school we not only teach about children's rights but also model rights

and respect in all relationships – Linked to Articles 3, 16, 19, 20, 21, 25, 27, 28, 34, 36, 39 (CRC)



