

Curriculum Vision and Intent

At Watermoor C of E Primary School, just like mustard seeds our children grow and flourish from promising beginnings into successful, confident and capable individuals. Our curriculum is underpinned by our vision and incorporates our Christian Values of courage, respect, hope, forgiveness, compassion and responsibility.



We have designed an **ambitious** and engaging curriculum from pre-school to Year 6, underpinned by Development Matters guidance and the National Curriculum framework, which supports children to grow and flourish in all subjects.

In response to our unique context, children explore and respond to **diverse** thoughts, ideas, experiences and beliefs from people and places that are different to their own, fostering a sense of being part of a global community.

We deliver a curriculum that is **inclusive**, accessible, and relevant to the needs and interests of our pupils.

We plan a range of **immersive** and engaging trips and experiences across the curriculum to enhance children's learning, understanding and engagement.

As a Church of England school, our curriculum supports the **spiritual** development of our children. We use the language of 'Ows, Wows and Nows' to pause and reflect upon ourselves, our relationships with others and with the world in which we live.

Reading

Our Writing curriculum has been carefully planned and sequenced, with knowledge, skills and understanding building progressively to ensure that children reach their fullest potential.

From Early Years, children are taught to listen for sounds and rhyme in their environment. Later, this is formalised into teaching initial sounds and groups of letters that combine to make more sounds, building simple words. A love of reading is nurtured through our choice of quality texts, which are engaging, inclusive, challenging and diverse. Children are read to daily and heard frequently at home and school in order to develop their reading and comprehension skills.

The ELS phonics scheme *is* in place from Reception to Year 2 (with ELS Phase 1 taught to children who attend pre-school), and VIPERS is taught throughout the school. VIPERS lessons are delivered through sequences of lessons with clearly defined objectives, knowledge and vocabulary, supported by a range of high-quality texts and resources. To support effective learning, we employ a variety of teaching strategies including collaborative discussion and spaced retrieval to meet the diverse needs of our pupils. We encourage cross-curricular links to deepen understanding and show how different subjects relate to each other.

Assessment is embedded throughout the learning process, with regular checks on progress to inform teaching. Teachers provide timely feedback to pupils, ensuring they have the support they need to make progress and feel confident in their learning. They use assessment to inform adaptations which provide additional support or challenge.

Impact

The impact of our reading curriculum is reflected in children's progress and attainment. We assess children's progress using assessment tools such as ELS phonics assessments, Star Reader and Rising Star assessments and Sonar Tracker. We also evaluate the development of children's engagement, curiosity and attitude to learning in this subject, as well as how it supports their wider personal and spiritual development.