

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Inclusion Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

At St. Bernadette's Catholic School you will find us caring, hardworking and co-operative. We follow the ways of Jesus using our talents and gifts to make our school special. We show respect to all and welcome you.

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School caring school which is committed to a broad, balanced curriculum and to a continual raising of standards. We aim to contribute to the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical needs of every individual.

We are a Catholic school, with a strong commitment to the teaching of Christianity whilst supporting a multi-faith approach to the curriculum. We recognise, value and celebrate the rich cultural diversity that exists in our school.

The Catholic ethos of the school is reflected in our positive, disciplined and calm atmosphere. We believe that effective learning takes place when children work in a purposeful and stimulating environment that supports a wide range of learning styles. Mutual respect between adults and children promotes excellent behaviour and well developed social skills. With this approach we seek to achieve high academic standards.

We aim to cater for each individual, taking particular account of any specific needs or abilities. We endeavour to ensure that all our children fulfil their potential and, within this context, we emphasise health and safety, enjoyment and achievement and the beginnings of responsibility for themselves and others. These skills will be carried forward to the next phase of education and throughout life.

Introduction

We are committed to giving all of our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. We do this by taking account of pupils' varied life experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum and have high expectations for all children. The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter. This policy helps to ensure that this school promotes the individuality of all our children, irrespective of ethnicity, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.

This policy should be read in conjunction with: SEND policy, St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School Local Offer, Equality and Diversity Policy and Accessibility Plan.

Aims and Objectives

St Bernadette's is a fully inclusive school. We actively seek to remove the barriers to learning and participation that can hinder or exclude individual pupils, or groups of pupils. This means that equality of opportunity must be a reality for our children. We make this a reality through the attention that we pay to the different groups of

children within our school:

- Girls and Boys
- Disadvantaged Pupils (Free School Meals and Ever 6)
- Minority ethnic and faith groups
- Children who need support to learn English as an additional language
- Children with Special Educational Needs
- Children with disabilities or medical needs
- Gifted and talented children
- Children at risk of disaffection or exclusion
- Travellers
- Asylum seekers

The National Curriculum is our starting point for planning a curriculum that meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of children. We meet these needs through:

- setting suitable learning challenges
- responding to children's diverse learning needs
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils, recognising these groups may be fluid and responding with flexibility
- providing other curricular opportunities outside the National Curriculum to meet the needs of individuals or groups of children (such as speech and language therapy)

We achieve educational inclusion by continually reviewing what we do, through asking ourselves these key questions:

- Do all our children achieve their best?
- Are there differences in the achievement of different groups of children?
- What are we doing for those children who we know are not achieving their best?
- Are our actions effective
- Are we successful in promoting racial harmony and preparing pupils to live in a diverse society?

The data we gather annually, using the school's system of progress trackers, help us to review our children's progress against these criteria. We also monitor children's access to extra-curricular activities through the use of extensive provision and class inclusion maps.

Teaching and Learning Style

We aim to give all our children the opportunity to succeed and reach the highest level of personal achievement. At the start of each year, the head and deputy set aspirational targets for all pupils. We analyse the attainment of different groups of pupils termly to ensure that all pupils are achieving as much as they can. We also make ongoing assessments of each child's progress. SLT and teachers use this information when planning their lessons and for interventions. It enables them to take into account the abilities of all their children. For some children, we use the programmes of study from earlier key stages. This enables some of our children to make progress in their own lessons, perhaps after significant amounts of time spent away from school. The SENCo plans evidence-based interventions for pupils who

need support to 'close the gap' and for gifted and talented/high achieving pupils to make even more progress and achieve their full potential.

When the attainment of a child falls significantly below the expected level, teachers enable the child to succeed by planning work that is in line with that child's individual needs. Individual education plans (IEPs) are implemented and targets set at a suitable level. Where the attainment of a child significantly exceeds the expected level of attainment, teachers may use materials from a later key stage, or extend the breadth of work within the area or areas for which the child shows particular aptitude.

St Bernadette's teachers provide quality first wave teaching to ensure all pupils make progress. We employ extra staff members who support disadvantaged pupils, gifted and talented pupils, and SEND and disabled pupils. These staff members work with pupils identified at Pupil Progress Reviews and they provide the SENCo and SLT with regular feedback on pupil progress.

Teachers are familiar with the equal opportunities legislation covering race, gender and disability.

Teachers ensure that all children:

- Feel secure and know that their contributions are valued
- Appreciate and value the differences they see in others
- Take responsibility for their own actions
- Are taught in groupings that allow them all to experience success
- Use materials that reflect a range of social and cultural backgrounds, without stereotyping
- Have a common curriculum experience that allows for a range of different learning styles
- Have challenging targets that enable them to succeed
- Participate fully, regardless of disabilities or medical needs

Children with disabilities

Some children in our school may have disabilities. We are committed to meeting the needs of these children, as we are to meeting the needs of all groups of children within our school. The school fully meets the requirements of the amended Disability Discrimination Acts that came into effect in 2010. All reasonable steps are taken to ensure that these children are not placed at a substantial disadvantage compared with non-disabled children. St Bernadette's Equality and Diversity Policy sets out how we put the DDA 2010 in to practice.

The school is committed to providing an environment that allows disabled children full access to all areas of learning. Our external classroom entrances are wide enough for wheelchair access, and the designated points of entry for our school also allow wheelchair access.

Teachers modify teaching and learning expectations as appropriate for children with disabilities. For example, they may give additional time to complete certain activities, or they may modify teaching materials. In their planning, teachers ensure that they give children with disabilities the opportunity to develop skills in practical aspects of

the curriculum. We ensure disabled pupils are involved in school trips and write comprehensive risk assessments to support their safe inclusion.

Teachers ensure that the work undertaken by disabled children:

- Takes account of their pace of learning and the equipment they use
- Takes account of the effort and concentration needed in oral work, or when using, for example, vision aids
- Allows opportunities for them to take part in educational visits and other activities linked to their studies
- uses assessment techniques that reflect their individual needs and abilities

Disapplication and Modification

The school can, where necessary, modify or disapply the National Curriculum and its assessment arrangements. Our school policy is to do this only in exceptional circumstances. The school makes every effort to meet the learning needs of all its children, without recourse to disapplication or modification. We achieve this through greater differentiation of the child's work, or through the provision of additional learning resources. When necessary, we also support learning through appropriate external specialists. In such cases, teachers work closely with these specialists to support the child.

In exceptional circumstances, we may decide that modification or disapplication is the correct procedure to follow. We would only do this after detailed consultation with parents/carers and the LA. The school's governor with responsibility for special educational needs would also be closely involved in this process. We would ensure that every effort had been made to provide the necessary support from within the school's resources before considering such action.

Should we go ahead with modification or disapplication, we would do so through:

- Section 364 of the Education Act 1996. This allows modification or disapplication of the National Curriculum, or elements of it, through a statement of special educational needs.
- Section 365 of the Education Act 1996. This allows the temporary modification or disapplication of the National Curriculum, or elements of it.
- Use of the NAA guidelines, updated annually.

Inclusion and Racism

The diversity of our society is addressed through our schemes of work, which reflect the programmes of study of the National Curriculum. Teachers are flexible in their planning and offer appropriate challenges to all pupils, regardless of ethnic or social background. All racist/ homophobic incidents are recorded. The school contacts parents or carers of those pupils involved in racist incidents.

Summary

At St Bernadette's, we value each child as a unique individual. We will strive to meet the needs of all our children, and ensure that we meet all statutory requirements related to matters of inclusion.

Governors

Our governor for Inclusion is Esther Hill. She meets with the SENCo to discuss inclusion strategy and the progress of identified groups.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be monitored and reviewed annually.