

## Our Mission, Vision and Objectives

### Mission

We believe that all children are a gift from God.

They are all special and should be allowed to develop and grow in a nurturing environment secure in the knowledge that they are cherished.

All of our children will leave the school with special memories and having achieved personal success, whilst being equipped to take their next steps in the journey of life.

Our Christian beliefs and values inform everything we do and achieve, and we encourage our children within an ethos of trust to reflect on their own values and faith in a supportive environment.

### Vision

We believe every child is a gift from God, so we aim to give each child the best possible opportunity to achieve their full potential by:

Offering a broad curriculum

Improving educational outcomes

Managing the budget effectively

Working collaboratively with other schools

Building on examples of best practice

Being a school that children love to attend

### Our objectives are . . .

To challenge all children to reach their full potential, spiritually, intellectually, physically, creatively and socially

To develop relationships where we all respect one another's beliefs, differences and ways of life, recognising each other as unique individuals.

To enable children to develop high self-esteem and encourage independence.

To enable children to take a responsible part in their own learning and become self-motivated to attain their goals.

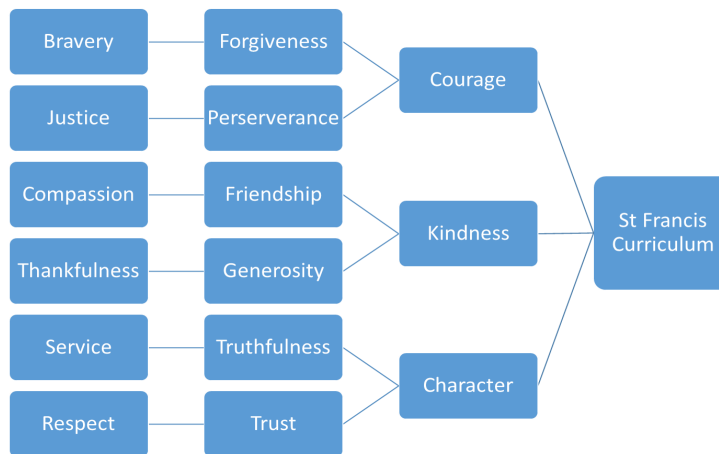
To make our school a welcoming community for all, where families are encouraged to participate in school activities and in their children's education.

Within the budget available, to provide a balanced curriculum that is stimulating, creative and of the highest quality; that is delivered by a committed team who ensure that learning is an enjoyable experience for all.

To provide a supportive environment for our members of staff.

That our Christian beliefs and values inform everything we do and achieve.

To encourage children within an ethos of trust to reflect on their own values and faith in a supportive environment.



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Stfrancis' curriculum can be  
found at:

[www.stfrancis.swindon.sch.uk](http://www.stfrancis.swindon.sch.uk)

*Saint Francis*

Curriculum

Rationale

English

Courage

Kindness

Character

Where God's gifts begin  
their journey to gain,  
attain and grow...

## Curriculum Rationale

### Intention

We believe that children deserve the very best teaching and learning opportunities in English. Our high expectations of all children, as well as our creative and exciting learning opportunities, provide a rich and engaging English curriculum, which immerse the children in a range of quality texts.

We want our children to be ‘readers’ not just children who can read. They will be enthused by a variety of books and use their skills of reading to independently learn across the curriculum.

We strive to develop children who are articulate and expressive communicators, and who have gained the basic skills they need in order to grow into aspirational, young authors.

English teaching is well planned to meet the needs of all learners allowing our children to attain the best they can. Positive relationships with families are fostered to embrace every learning opportunity from class sharing, drama performances through to regular home reading and spelling tasks.

## Curriculum Delivery

### Implementation

The various elements of English are taught throughout the week.

An English lesson is taught daily using carefully selected ‘Quality First Texts’. This approach exposes the children to a wide range of stimulating, language-rich books on which they base their own writing for both fiction and non-fiction purposes.

Each English unit involves a three phase process which aims to fully engage the children with opportunities throughout to develop themselves as writers.

Early and developing readers are given lots of opportunities for individual reading where they can progress at their own rate. Guided Reading sessions allow children to experience a range of text types, furthering their reading and comprehension skills.

Focussed phonic or spelling sessions take place each week where children explore, rehearse and develop knowledge and understanding of spelling patterns and rules.

Speaking and listening skills are enhanced in all subject areas through activities such as group work, oral presentations, and evaluating other people's work.

## Curriculum Evaluation

### Impact

We strive to ensure that the impact of our English curriculum provides children with the appropriate age-related knowledge and skills allowing them to progress with confidence through the various stages of their English education.

The next steps for each individual's learning are informed through the use of a range of materials and strategies, enabling us to carefully measure children's attainment and progress. These include statutory assessments, NFER assessments, phonics screening, assessment for learning, Benchmarking, writing moderation and peer and self-assessment opportunities.

At the end of each term assessment data is gathered and progress is checked by the senior leadership team. Children are expected to make good or better progress in all subjects and this individual progress is tracked and reported to parents and carers at parents evening and on the end of year report.

Our aim is that children's attainment in English is in line with or exceeds age related expectations when we have taken into account the varied starting points and specific needs of individual children.