

Our School Vision

Stratford St Mary Primary School is committed to creating a culture where individuals can set challenging goals for themselves and have the mindset to achieve excellence.

We will accomplish this through being consistent in our strategy and our teaching, and expect everyone in the school community to be working in the same direction. Our highly skilled staff will be motivated to create a stimulating environment in which all our pupils will have a clear idea of their potential and be able to achieve it.

In every step we take as we move towards our Vision, we need to keep certain aspirations in mind. While being constantly guided by their teachers and leaders towards ever more challenging goals, children will take independent responsibility for their own learning. Competitiveness has its place in driving our results, but never at the expense of a healthy respect for others. We all display behaviours and traits which show us to be positive role models. At Stratford St Mary Primary School we move towards our vision, taking full advantage of and continuing to build on the many attributes that we are fortunate to have. These include the strong community feel which exists in the village and its surrounding areas; the many skills of our team; the willing involvement of our children's families and our extensive grounds and facilities. We will continue to invest in the learning environment and teach our children to respect their community and environment and prepare them for today's diverse society.

Our school vision has been the driving force behind our curriculum design and takes into account the 4 main areas below as well as the following characteristics for learning:

- Perseverance
- Excellence
- Positive Attitude
- Respect
- Challenge
- Curiosity

Curriculum Intent

Individual Aspirations

We have designed our curriculum to address the importance of keeping our bodies and minds healthy and safe. Growth Mindset and the JONK philosophy ensures the learning environment encourages children not to be afraid to 'have a go'; it encourages curiosity, promotes self esteem and puts the emphasis on asking questions to develop one's sense of self and social confidence. It will teach children to respect themselves and others and provide opportunities for our learners to be curious, confident, responsible and lifelong learners who strive for excellence. The curriculum will enable children to be challenged and challenge themselves and be competitive, but never at the expense of a healthy respect for others. The children will be given the opportunities to become resilient learners and persevere with tasks as well as take inspiration from others in school and beyond.

The curriculum promotes the lives of inspirational figures from all backgrounds, walks of life and across the various fields Through lessons across the curriculum, we will inspire the children to think beyond, not only their immediate locality, but across the globe and for them to consider their future selves.

The Environment

Stratford St Mary Primary School is set in approximately 3 acres. These extensive grounds include a large field and playground, a sensory garden, wildlife and environmental area including a pond and fire pit, vegetable patches, raised beds and a greenhouse.

We are situated in the heart of the village in a designated Area of Outstanding Beauty - the Stratford Vale. We are very near to the River Stour which crosses through the village and close to Flatford and Dedham. We sit on the edge of the Suffolk/Essex border and are close to the A12 - great for access to the coast and more urban areas, such as Ipswich, Colchester & London. Our curriculum is designed to make use of the local, national and global environments. We make use of these environments for the curriculum, but also extra curricular activities (such as clubs and working towards our Kite Marks - for example Eco-School & School Sports Games awards).

Global & Cultural Awareness

SSMPS is a community primary school - the demographic and background of the children attending the school are mainly 'White - British and are classified as having a Christian faith or no faith. There is very little representation of children from other cultures, religions or diverse backgrounds.

Our curriculum is designed so children have an awareness and an appreciation of people from all walks of life, religions, cultures and family dynamics. It is designed to promote an understanding of how our culture has developed from past events and how the cultural mix in Britain has developed over time. It gives the opportunities to explore significant historical events that have shaped our lives today and the lives of people all over the world through colonisation, invasion, wars, immigration and migration. It is also designed to take into account an awareness of the diversity and beauty of the physical world and also the challenges it faces such as global warming, deforestation, pollution and natural disasters.

The Arts

Our curriculum is designed to provide opportunities to learn about, share and have an appreciation of the arts - visual, creative and digital. We will deliver an enriching curriculum, which uses the arts to allow ALL children the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. The curriculum will provide children with the opportunities to embrace their individual talents and passions, through a variety of platforms such as productions, music events, sharing assemblies, drama and curriculum days.. Visiting galleries, theatres, festivals, museums and welcoming visitors to the school will provide opportunities which broaden the children's awareness of local, national and global stages.

Curriculum Implementation

Planning and delivery of the curriculum will take several factors into consideration; the statutory guidelines of the Early Years Foundation Curriculum and the National Curriculum as well as the local stimuli and pertinent events.

Each subject is taught within an overarching whole school theme where trips, visits, visitors and the use of our extensive grounds will support and complement learning, where skills and knowledge in each subject is taught and where progression from our youngest learners to our oldest is visible.

Knowledge Organisers have been developed for foundation subjects, detailing where the learning has come from and the intended learning for the topic. In addition to this, key skills, knowledge and vocabulary is noted.

The implementation of the curriculum will be delivered by our highly skilled team and take all learners into account. Careful and considered planning and delivery of the curriculum, and where needed, targeted support, will enable all children to be challenged, regardless of their age, ability or starting points.

A varied extra-curricular timetable is also offered by the school; these take the children and their interests into account, whether this is sporting, creative or other.

Impact

This will be measured throughout the year using formative and summative assessments as well as Pupil Perception interviews, monitoring visits and climate walks.