

Curriculum Statement 2019-2020

All of our classes follow the 2014 National Curriculum.

Curriculum Provision at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School

Our curriculum is underpinned by the National Curriculum (2014), we enhance this with planned opportunities that make up the wider school curriculum. Learning is always exciting and in a meaningful context for children. Where commonality exists between subjects, learning is linked and lessons taught using a cross-curricular approach. Where this is not achievable, subjects are taught discretely. The rehearsal and application of basic skills learned in the core curriculum is a driver for the entire curriculum.

We place a strong emphasis on the development of the basic skills necessary to be confident independent learners and successful adults. Children rapidly begin to read in our Reception class by following a programme called *'Letters and Sounds.'* The *'Letters and Sounds.'* programme is continued into Key stage 1. When children have completed the programme, they receive additional guided reading sessions. All children engage in a weekly guided reading sessions where they develop their reading and comprehension skills in addition to developing a command of all aspects of the English language. The Oxford Reading Tree reading scheme is used in EYFS and Key Stage 1. In addition, all children take part in English and Mathematics mornings.

At St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School, children develop a strong sense of moral purpose in addition to a respect and understanding of people who have different characteristics to themselves, whether that is: age, disability, gender, race or sexuality. Our Christian values of: confidence, independence, hope, resilience, forgiveness, hope, trust and compassion are explored within weekly worship, referenced in RE (Come and See) and PSHE so that they are embedded within the curriculum and lived out by every member of the school community. We ensure that our pupils develop into well rounded, empathetic young people who have a thirst for learning and respect for all around them.

At St Ambrose Barlow, the children benefit from a weekly PE lesson delivered by passionate teaching staff using a specialist planning scheme (Spiral PE). This ensures that the children develop an understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle whilst developing and refining their sports skills.

Religious Education is delivered through the Diocesan recommended scheme – Come and See. In addition to Come and See, we seek opportunities in all subjects to live out the Gospel Values that as Catholics, are of paramount importance to us.

British Values are also explored and developed throughout all classes and through assemblies. See the supporting document for further information on how we promote British Values in school.

The curriculum at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School aims to:

- Inspire children to develop a love of learning.
- Embed skills to prepare children for further learning and a successful adulthood.
- Take learning beyond the classroom so that children can apply their knowledge and skills in a range of contexts.
- Develop children to become reflective learners who have a sense of responsibility for their own learning and development.
- Build confidence and motivation within our children.
- Grow children who understand the importance of perseverance, resilience and tolerance.
- Enable children to use their acquired skills and knowledge to observe, question and think.
- Develop children's understanding of the key British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Mutual Respect, Personal Liberty and Tolerance of other faiths and cultures.

At St Ambrose Barlow, we feel that involving parents in their child's learning is crucial in ensuring that children make the best possible progress. We try to get parents involved in a number of ways:

- **School Website**– Information is uploaded to our website to keep parents as up to date as possible. We supplement our website with our School Twitter account @AmbroseBarlow.
- **Newsletters** – We endeavour to keep parents informed about what is going on in school and also providing useful help at home tips to support learning.
- **Parent Workshops**– We provide parents with Reading, Mathematics and E-Safety Workshops annually. These are very popular and well attended.
- **Parental information**- Parents and carers are provided with a range of information throughout the academic year including; pupil assessment information and children's targets. We also provide a text message service for reminders and sharing information about school and PTA events.
- **Open Door Policy**-The school also has an open door policy and parents are always welcome to come in and meet with class teachers to discuss issues related to their child. The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher are in the playground every morning and after school.