

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Curriculum Statement

St Mary's has adopted a skills based curriculum model that combines essential core skills and knowledge with the opportunity for children to think and learn creatively. Each term is themed, and contains topics that allow teachers the opportunity to design relevant, engaging and creative learning experiences for their children.

Our curriculum offers a broad and balanced approach to primary education. It is designed to meet the requirements of the new primary curriculum whilst also providing opportunities for children to develop the skills they need as 21st century learners.

Ofsted carried out a short inspection in February 2016 and judged the school to be 'good'. From the report:

*A genuine sense of care and community is reflected in everything the school does. The well-being of pupils is central to your vision, as the headteacher, and in realising this you are well supported by leaders, staff and governors. The attention given to pupils' personal development underpins the strong engagement and positive behaviour of pupils. They work diligently in lessons and offer support and help to each other. As a result, pupils enjoy school and seek to benefit from all the school has to offer.*

A Diocesan review by J. Kilner (Ofsted Inspector) in October 2015 stated:  
'St Mary's School provides a high quality, effective learning environment in which pupils and young children are able to confidently and safely explore their learning. An excellent, vibrant curriculum which has been well-planned, is consistently implemented and permeates the whole life of the school. The curriculum reflects the strength of the Catholic Faith and there is strong evidence in the pupils' work and on displays of the high moral purpose which is at the heart of all that the pupils undertake in their learning.... In short, nothing is 'stand-alone' at this school. There is a seamless link between the vibrant curriculum, active learning and high standards all of which are underpinned by a strong moral purpose.'

In March 2017 school achieved the UNICEF Level 1 Rights Respecting Award. This underpins our strong Catholic ethos and the development of British Values as our children develop a strong moral purpose, respecting and celebrating difference and diversity in others.

The school uses the Read- Write Inc phonics scheme.