



## **All Saints CE First School**

### **Early Years Curriculum Statement**

#### **Intent**

At All Saints CE First School we believe that the early days of learning are the ones that should be full of awe, wonder and curiosity. Where exploring, imagining and constructing are openly encouraged and where staff actively model and lead children on the crucial first stage of their learning journey. We have created a learning environment full of naturally open ended resources that support staff and children alike in being curious. We recognise children's interests and prior learning before planning learning opportunities that will excite and motivate. We endeavour to provide first-hand experiences that make our curriculum purposeful, relevant and fun. Every child is recognised as the unique and wonderful individual they are. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values. Children are encouraged to be independent in their learning with adults facilitating as required.

Throughout the Early Years, children will have opportunities to develop their social skills and form positive relationships with peers and adults alike. They develop skills in turn-taking and sharing and are given opportunities to practise these skills in a safe and nurturing environment. The use of the natural world is particularly important to the staff and we endeavour to use the outdoor space, including our woodland area, as often as possible. Working outside in fresh air amongst nature is where you see learning come to life and confidence grow.

It is our aspiration that every child leaves Early Years fully ready to meet the challenge of Year One and beyond. That they have the confidence, curiosity and desire to be the best they can be and develop into lifelong learners.

#### **Implementation**

In the Early Years, we follow the Early Years Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, published in September 2021. This framework specifies the requirement for learning and development in the Early Years and provides prime and specific areas of learning we must cover in our curriculum. These are:

##### **Prime Areas**

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language Development

##### **Specific Areas**

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

A vital aspect in the development of essential knowledge and skills is the use of continuous provision. This allows children to use, apply and develop taught skills throughout the year. We constantly provide enhancement opportunities to engage, motivate and excite learners linking carefully to their prior knowledge, interests and our topics. We consistently challenge and motivate children to work independently allowing them to take charge of their own learning. Children also access Adult Led learning where adults teach particular skills. Children take part in daily phonics sessions following the Letters and Sounds scheme of work. The skills learnt in these sessions are then transferred back into their independent reading and writing.

#### **Impact**

The impact of our curriculum is measured by assessment procedures which allow us to measure outcomes against all schools both locally, within the ULT (Uttoxeter Learning Trust) and nationally. We measure the percentage of pupils achieving a 'Good Level of Development' (GLD) by the end of Reception year. We continue to achieve and celebrate standards above national in all areas of learning, including reading, writing, maths and GLD.

The impact of our curriculum is also measured by how effectively it helps our pupils develop into well-rounded individuals who embody our values and carry with them the knowledge, skills, attitudes and a thirst for further knowledge that will make them lifelong learners and wonderful future citizens.