



SWINFORD
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY
SCHOOL



Date adopted: September 2023

Next review due: September 2024

Curriculum Policy

To inspire confident learners who will thrive in a changing world.

Curriculum Intent

At Swinford Church of England Primary School, we believe that every child can do amazing things and our mission is to help make this potential a reality by inspiring confident learners who will thrive in a changing world.

We have designed our own curriculum, prioritising the development of the *whole child* by stimulating enquiring minds and fostering excitement for learning and allowing our teachers to take a creative approach to their practice. Our vision is clear:

"I will be the best that I can be, and I will allow myself to love and to be loved safe in the knowledge that the rest will follow."

Education influences and reflects the values of society and the kind of society we want to be. It is important, therefore, to recognise a broad set of common values and purposes that underpin the school and the work of schools. We are proud to be part of the Embrace Multi Academy Trust, working with them to strengthen our curriculum offer. Swinford School has a Christian vision rooted in love, where all are welcomed and nurtured to reach their full potential.

Love is patient, love is kind, love always protects, love always hopes, love always trusts, Love never fails. (Based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Love enables us to value ourselves, our families and other relationships, the wider groups to which we belong, the diversity in our society and the environment in which we live.

We will ensure that all children flourish academically but of paramount importance is that they also learn the skills and knowledge needed to live successful and happy lives, where they are informed and courageous advocates of the things that matter to them.

Curriculum Implementation

Children are expected to “*be the best that they can be*” to both maximise their own potential, as well as contribute to the school and wider community. Our traffic light behaviour system, House System and monthly awards, all reward the behaviours that we strive to develop. We have high expectations of attendance, effort and behaviour for all our pupils.

At Swinford Church of England Primary School, we have always insisted on the important link between pupil, school and home. Working together, we endeavour to create common values to prepare every child for their place in society.

We are passionate about delivering a broad and balanced curriculum offer that provides a good foundation for secondary education. Since 2021, we have begun to use our teachers to teach their specialist subjects across the key stages. This has enabled us to ensure a consistent approach, and a clear subject focus in each lesson. Currently, we used outside providers for teaching PE and also Music each week. Our aim is that

“Every day, in every classroom, every pupil has a powerful learning experience and they make good progress in all areas.”

We are committed to the philosophy that education goes beyond the reaches of the classroom and that young people can learn a great deal by taking part in educational visits and activities away from school and home. School trips including residentials, whole school trips to the seaside and other specific curriculum trips; all widen our children’s experiences and perspectives on the world, helped by the commitment and dedication of our staff, who are always looking to develop and extend these opportunities. Our outdoor area, includes a woodland area and trim trail, allowing the children time to make the most of their beautiful learning environment whatever the weather.

On a regular basis, visiting speakers and instructors involve children in a wide range of activities and there are many other enrichment opportunities available to all children. Regular clubs run throughout the year such as multi-sports, football, gymnastics, netball and cross-country. These opportunities allow children to learn outside the classroom and as a result develop greater independence and resourcefulness.

As a church school, Christian beliefs are explored and developed alongside other faiths and worldviews. Pupils experience worship both in school, at Church and in the community. The special status of Religious Education in the Curriculum is important. It has equal standing in relation to the core and other foundation subjects within the school's curriculum, making a particular contribution to the pupil's spiritual, moral and multicultural education.

We believe that our fundamental task is to teach children to access the curriculum through reading, writing and speaking to a high standard that means they are well prepared and ready for the next phase in education. Reading across all areas of the curriculum is a priority to extend and deepen the children’s learning and vocabulary. We want pupils to develop a love of reading while they are at Swinford School, and be exposed to a wide range of classic and contemporary literature. Our class reads are pivotal in this.

Our curriculum is planned on a two-year rolling programme and we review and refine this on a termly basis and in three phases. We agree a long-term plan for the whole school and then for each individual class, carefully map the topics and objectives to be covered each term and with the progression of knowledge and skills from one year to the next at the forefront of our minds.

Across the school, we adopt a topic approach, making links between subjects wherever possible. We plan the curriculum carefully to ensure coherence, excellent coverage and progression of knowledge and skills in all areas.

Impact

"confident learners who will thrive in a changing world"

Our children:

- Are confident and independent learners who are resilient, have a love of learning and are able to participate in a wide variety of events inside and out of school.
- Have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills through Swinford Parliament, Sports Ambassadors, Playground leaders, Recycling Group, Reading Ambassadors, Maths Ambassadors, Flying Fish. They also have opportunity to share their views and ideas in the Embrace Parliament.
- Develop and use their character muscles of concentration, independence, imagination, questioning, respect, cooperation, friendship, kindness, resilience, confidence/self-belief, managing impulsivity, reasoning and problem solving, perseverance, listening and communication, empathy, risk taking, making links, curiosity, improving, gratitude, integrity, open minded, sense of humour, inclusiveness, optimism and compassion.
- Have access to a wide and varied curriculum, allowing each of them to excel as individuals and *"be the best that they can be."*
- Are well prepared for KS3, striving for at least the expected standard in all subjects.
- Have aspirations for the future and know how these can be realised by using their character muscles.
- Will grow up to make a positive contribution to the world in which they live, showing love to others. *Love is patient, love is kind, love always protects, love always hopes, love always trusts, Love never fails.* (Based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

We are proud to be part of the Embrace Multi Academy Trust

