



International Links / Global Learning Policy



Rational

In September 2018 staff, parents and governors worked together to produce a new vision for St Andrew's Primary School. It was decided that a new modern vision was required to meet the needs of the very diverse and every changing world we live in. The vision is as follows:

“At St Andrew's Primary School, we are dedicated to provide a happy and caring community where everyone feels safe, valued and equal. We give the key to open doors to life-long possibilities and achievements in a diverse and ever-changing modern world.”

At St Andrew's Primary School, we want to develop a deeper understanding of our role as global citizens, to develop international links and endeavour to achieve a whole school approach to create “A school full of World Shapers” (Oxfam) and instil in our St Andrew's family that we all can be a ‘World Shaper.’

Global learning and establishing international links are about children finding out about the wider world and engaging with projects, issues and learning outside of Bishop Auckland and how we can make a difference. Global dimensions are on our doorsteps and we endeavour to work with these to establish links with local schools, by visiting places of worship, by participating in local events, working with the local council and inviting parents/carers and other members of the local community into school to help develop global perspectives.

In essence we want our global learners to be –

- Critical
- Creative
- Self-aware
- Globally aware
- Open-minded
- Inquisitive
- Reflective
- Connected
- Willing to engage with global challenges

We aim to promote an understanding and tolerance of other cultures and to celebrate similarities and differences as we know it is vital to prepare children for a multi-cultural world as well as engage them in exciting learning. International learning activities aren't simply an add-on to our curriculum but are embedded across a variety of subject areas of all age groups.

Aims

We aim to enable our children to:

- Know and understand more about global issues;
- Know more about countries, cultures and languages other than their own; Develop curiosity about other cultures; (Curriculum collapse activities – see below)

- Use their ICT skills in meaningful contexts to find out about and communicate with the wider world; (Linked to above and link school)
- Understand that decisions and actions taken individually and locally can have an impact globally;
- To celebrate the rich and diverse heritage represented both in our school and in local and national communities and to value and respect different cultures and beliefs;
- To develop a link with an international school, to learn about same and enjoy regular contact with their pupils and staff via written letters, e-mails, Teams/Zoom face to face communications; In the first instance to gain a foundation level International School Award.
- Organise regular celebrations of our rich and diverse heritage, including international cultures within the UK;
- Ensure our assembly programme includes opportunities to learn about and reflect on other cultures and global issues;
- Provide opportunities for children to 'make a difference' through projects, events and initiatives;
- Ensure our school provides displays which encourage engagement with global issues and celebrates our multi-cultural society.
- To provide opportunities for 'enquiry-based learning' to teach reasoning and argumentative skills to enhance thinking and communicating skills, boost confidence and self-esteem all aimed at ensuring children are aware that **Every Voice Matters**;
- Provide training for adults and children as appropriate.

Links with other areas of the school's work

This policy complements and contributes to our work in other key aspects of the school's work, especially:

- Promoting equality
- Tackling racism
- Working sustainably
- Encouraging pupil participation
- Enabling effective conflict resolution.

We are a school with very active Action Groups who meet once a month to deal with issues and become involved in projects, these include:

School Council
Digital Leaders
Sports Leaders
Eco Warriors
Anti-bullying
Rights Respecting

In September 2020 we are going to carry out a fully democratic vote amongst the children to decide upon another Action Group.

We are a Rights Respecting School and our Rights Respecting Group work tirelessly to ensure all children understand the rights of the child, as outlined in the UNICEF charter for children's rights.

Their primary aims are:

1. To continue to achieve Rights Respecting Awards for our school
2. To broaden the school's cultural capital and SMSC curriculum
3. To help pupils understand difference and diversity in our modern world

In 2011, the government defined British Values as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We promote these values through our own school values, curriculum and enrichment activities. With this in mind, we have a core value for every month, these are values that we believe our children, staff, governors and visitors should demonstrate.

Our whole school curriculum has been designed to meet the needs of our children and to reflect the community and world we live in. Using the National Curriculum 2014 Progression Guidance, as a starting point, we have considered our locality, our school vision, core values and key drivers to design a curriculum that engages, interests and builds fundamental knowledge for our pupils.

We recognise that the Statutory National Curriculum covers the minimum requirement for primary education, and we believe that our pupils need further enhancements to ensure they have a broad, balanced and rich curriculum that meets the intention of our Key Curriculum drivers: Well being, Knowledge and Aspirations, and our Core and British Values.

In order to achieve this, we have designed a range of "Curriculum Collapse" days, where the whole school collapses the normal timetable to learn about one topic for the whole day.

2020-2021

Autumn 1- Celebrating our differences day

Autumn 2- Diwali

Spring 1 – Chinese New Year

Spring 2- Street Safe

Summer 1 – Careers Day

Summer 2 – Earth Day

Summary

Our curriculum and everyday values strive to develop valuable educational, social and cultural experiences to ensure that international links and global learning are integrated into the ethos of our school. In line with curriculum policy we are committed to learning that is engaging, inspiring and enjoyable and to learning that endeavours to ensure every child reaches their full potential. Our vision is to equip our children for a life in a global society and work in a global economy. We aim for life-long learning skills in a happy, secure, caring environment of mutual trust and respect. In essence we want the best for our children.

St Andrew's is about "Working together for a Successful Future."

This policy should be considered alongside other relevant policies. It will be ratified and reviewed by the governing body as appropriate.