

William Cassidi Church of England Primary School

Teaching and Learning Policy Statement

'Life in all Fullness'
(John 10:10)



As a school, we want to provide children with the very best education. To let them experience life in all its fullness and living with all their heart. Our main core value of love underpins all that we do. Our school is Christ-centred and our core Christian values of love, respect, courage, service and resilience flow through every aspect of school life. It is on this bedrock that we provide an excellent education for the children who attend our school. We want every child to be the very best that they can be and to recognise that they are precious, loved and valued.

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."
(John 10:10)*

Introduction

At William Cassidi Church of England Primary School Church we are committed to enabling all members of our community to flourish and live life in all its fullness. Our approach to teaching and learning is grounded in our Christian vision and the core values of Love, Respect, Resilience, Courage, and Service.

Aims of the Policy

- To promote high-quality teaching that inspires and enables every child to achieve their potential.
- To create an inclusive and supportive learning environment underpinned by Christian values.
- To ensure consistency of teaching and learning practices across Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Key Stage 1 (KS1), and Key Stage 2 (KS2).
- To provide a framework for continuous improvement in teaching and learning.

The Core Principles of Teaching and Learning

Rooted in Christian Values:

- **Love:** We nurture a culture of compassion and care, where every child is known, valued, and supported.
- **Respect:** We model mutual respect, valuing diversity and promoting equality across our school community.
- **Resilience:** We encourage a growth mindset, helping pupils persevere and bounce back from challenges.
- **Courage:** We foster a safe environment where pupils take risks in their learning and stand up for what is right.
- **Service:** We teach children the joy of helping others, both in the classroom and the wider world.

Effective Teaching

High-quality teaching is essential to enable all children to flourish. We are committed to:

- **Clear Learning Objectives:** Teachers share learning goals and success criteria to ensure clarity and focus.
- **Engaging Lessons:** Planning is creative and reflects a variety of teaching styles and resources to meet diverse needs.
- **High Expectations:** Staff maintain high expectations for all learners, encouraging independence and excellence.
- **Assessment for Learning:** Teachers use ongoing formative assessment to inform planning and adapt teaching.
- **Feedback:** Feedback is timely, specific, and constructive, promoting reflection and improvement.
- **Inclusive Practice:** Teaching is differentiated to support pupils with SEND, EAL, and those identified as gifted and talented.
- **Cross-Curricular Links:** Learning is enriched through connections across subjects, including opportunities for spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development.

Effective Learning

We believe children learn best when:

- They feel safe, valued, and inspired.
- Their curiosity is sparked through stimulating environments and rich learning opportunities.
- They are actively engaged in hands-on and meaningful tasks.
- They are given opportunities to collaborate, reflect, and take ownership of their learning.
- They are encouraged to develop the resilience to face challenges and learn from mistakes.

The Learning Environment

We strive to create environments that:

- Reflect our Christian distinctiveness with visual displays and reflection areas.
- Have high quality furniture and resources to reflect a sense of importance and pride in learning.
- Have free-flow opportunities within classroom spaces to enable live marking, regular feedback and efficient transitions to occur.
- Are well-organised, inclusive and promote independent learning.
- Celebrate children's achievements through displays of work and positive reinforcement.
- Encourage exploration, creativity and a love of learning across all key stages.
- Offers opportunity for specialist teaching e.g. ICT suite and library.
- Enhance opportunities for outdoor learning e.g. school garden, outdoor stage, forest area, etc...

Curriculum and Planning

- The curriculum is broad, balanced and rooted in our Christian vision, promoting academic excellence and spiritual growth.
- Long, medium and short-term planning ensures progression and coverage across EYFS, KS1, and KS2.
- The curriculum reflects the diverse needs of learners and provides opportunities for real-life learning, local links, and global awareness.

Role of Teachers

Teachers at William Cassidi Church of England Primary School are expected to:

- Be reflective practitioners, committed to continual professional development.
- Use evidence-informed practice and adapt teaching based on pupil needs.
- Collaborate with colleagues to share good practice and support one another.

- Embed Christian values into all aspects of classroom life and model them in daily interactions.

Role of Leaders

School leaders are responsible for:

- Monitoring teaching and learning through observations, book looks, pupil voice and data analysis.
- Supporting staff development and sharing best practices.
- Ensuring alignment of teaching with the school's vision and values.
- Promoting a culture of high aspiration, equity, and continuous improvement.

Role of Pupils

We encourage all pupils to:

- Take responsibility for their learning, asking questions and reflecting on progress.
- Show love and respect in how they relate to others.
- Demonstrate resilience and courage in facing academic and personal challenges.
- Participate fully and use their gifts in the service of others.

Role of Parents and Carers

Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting children's learning. We aim to:

- Foster strong home-school partnerships.
- Communicate regularly through newsletters, consultations, reports, social media and daily interactions.
- Involve families in school life and their child's educational journey. We encourage parent helpers to come into school to support with learning, attend educational visits and participate in community events such as attending church services, school fayres, performances, etc...

- We have established a playgroup so that parents and carers can build partnerships with school before their child's school nursery journey begins.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed regularly by the Headteacher and Governing Body. Evaluation of its effectiveness includes:

- Teaching observations and learning walks.
- Pupil progress data.
- Pupil and parent feedback.
- Staff CPD impact.

Approved by Governors: July 2025

Renewal Date: July 2026