"At St Bernadette's Catholic School you will find us caring, hardworking and cooperative. We follow the ways of Jesus using our talents and gifts to make our school special. We show respect to all and welcome you."

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- GDPR
- Health and Safety
- Intimate Care
- ICT Acceptable Use Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- SEND
- Computing Acceptable Use

## Intent

- St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School is a beacon of hope and a place that offers children an education rich in wonder and memorable experiences. We believe all children deserve an education that allows their natural curiosity and creativity to flourish, alongside the purposeful acquisition of skills and knowledge. We want our children to succeed in our everchanging world, we hope our education gives our children the best chance to become happy and well-rounded individuals, reaching their full potential and fostering our school motto, 'Love to Learn, Learn to Love'.
- At St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, we recognise that every child is unique; we
  welcome and celebrate differences and our curriculum is designed to recognise children's
  diverse range of experiences and prior learning from their previous settings and their home
  environment. We know the crucial role that early years education has to play in providing
  firm foundations upon which the rest of a child's education is successfully based.
- It is our intention to provide an enriched, rounded, safe and stimulating learning environment, where children can work with adults and peers in a climate of mutual respect and trust. We work in partnership with parents and carers to encourage independent, happy learners who thrive at school. Our curriculum is driven by our four fundamental EYFS curriculum drivers:

## Implementation

At St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, we follow the Early Years Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. The framework specifies the requirements and development in the EYFS. All areas of the EYFS curriculum are followed and planned for to ensure there is a broad, balanced and progressive learning environment and curriculum, with a specific focus on the prime areas which are important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships, and thriving. The children will learn new skills, acquire new knowledge and demonstrate understanding through the seven areas of the EYFS curriculum:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language,
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Our curriculum is judiciously balanced, with a focus on the knowledge and skills children need to flourish. It is based on wonder and awe, delivered through topics which engage the children. Each half term, children will cover a new topic, and they are given the opportunity to influence and plan the direction of their own learning by identifying what they already know, understand and would like to know about each new topic of work. Each topic is then flexibly delivered, incorporating an initial 'Sparky Start' to 'hook' the children's imagination in their new topic. At the end of each topic of work, children are given the opportunity to evaluate their learning and celebrate their achievements and this celebration is often shared with parents and carers. We ensure that we build solid relationships with the children, so we know their interest and likes to support learning.

A vital aspect in the development of essential knowledge and skills is the use of continuous provision. This gives children the opportunity to use and develop skills taught throughout the year on a daily basis. Continuous provision supports children to develop key life skills such as independence, innovation, creativity, enquiry, analysis, and problem solving, as well as social and communication skills.

During the school day, children will have an opportunity to work independently and work collaboratively with their friends and with members of staff. Daily guided activities are also planned to cover different areas of the EYFS curriculum and allow children to develop their next steps in learning. There are also a range of stimulating and engaging enhancements to the continuous provision which the children can access independently and a variety of opportunities for child-initiated play. In planning and guiding children's activities, we reflect on the different ways that children learn and reflect these in our practice. Adult interaction and the learning environment; including continuous provision, support children to reach their next stage in their individual learning journey. Termly, we complete summative assessments – these judgements are made on the basis of accumulative observations and in-depth knowledge of the children acquired through ongoing, high-quality interactions and assessments. We will include interventions for groups or individuals if and when necessary, and ensure that the next stage of the children's learning journey is developed through quality first teaching.

