



Curriculum Statement

Intent

At Stella Maris we provide a curriculum that is rich and engaging, so that the children relish their time at school and work hard at the exciting opportunities provided to help them develop into polite, confident, friendly and well-rounded individuals.

Staff have high expectations for themselves and the pupils, and promote a love of learning as the key to a fulfilling life.

Values

In addition to our Ethical Values, which promote, support and extend the British values identified by national government, we also subscribe to six Learning Values:

- **Challenge:** we want each person to surprise themselves by achieving more than they thought they could, through having the security to value risks in their learning, playing and relationships.
- **Creativity:** we want each person to think for themselves in order to create new knowledge and to develop the confidence to solve problems.
- **Independence:** we want each person to have the confidence to develop their own ideas and the freedom to express them.
- **Interdependence:** we want each person to have the attitude and ability to work together towards shared goals and aspirations in a secure and supportive environment.
- **Thinking:** we want each person to appreciate that they are on a personal journey where everyday experience contributes to valuing themselves and others, and reaffirms the meaning of their lives.
- **Spirituality:** we want each person to make a success of their lives by increasing their capacity for effective thought and then harnessing its power.

Purpose

At Stella Maris we work in collaboration with pupils, parents and the community to provide a curriculum which:

- is broad, balanced and flexible, so that it develops pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding through learning programmes and experiences appropriate to their ages and abilities, regardless of their gender, ethnic or social background, and taking account of any talents and special educational needs;
- ensures that sufficient time is allowed for all aspects of the curriculum and for the development of essential skills across all curriculum areas;
- engages learners and provides for continuity of experiences and progression within, between and beyond the key stages, and promotes lifelong learning;
- promotes pupils' self-esteem, challenges them to achieve the highest standards, and makes them feel valued;

- prepares pupils for the responsibilities and opportunities that arise throughout life, so they can become valued members of society;
- extends pupils' knowledge, experience and understanding in ways which promote enjoyment in, and commitment to, lifelong learning;
- develops positive attitudes and qualities through spiritual awareness and aesthetic appreciation;
- fosters respect for the environment and an understanding of the ways in which human activity can affect local, national and international communities;
- promotes equality of opportunity, develops understanding of, and respect for, the rights and views of others and emphasises the value of personal relationships based on mutual respect;
- promotes the importance of healthy living, both mentally and physically;
- prepares pupils for the next stage of learning;
- promotes pupils' understanding of their roles as members of the school, local, national and international communities; and
- promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.