



Calder Vale St. John's CE Primary School  
Scorton CE Primary School



## THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

When a child first comes to the school in Year R we set out to provide a sound basis for learning in the Foundation Stage before they move on to the National Curriculum. In Year 1 to Year 6 all of the subjects of the National Curriculum are taught to all of the children in the school. English, Mathematics, Information Communication Technology and Science are the core subjects of the National Curriculum; History, Geography, Design Technology, Music, Art, P.E. are the foundation subjects of the National Curriculum. The non-statutory subjects of P.S.H.E. (Personal Social and Health Education) and Citizenship are also taught. In addition to these ten National Curriculum subjects Religious Education is also taught throughout the school, following the Blackburn Diocese Agreed Syllabus.

Primary education should be hugely positive and a rich experience for all children. Learning at Calder Vale St. John's CE Primary School and Scorton CE Primary School means learning not only different things but learning in different ways: out-of-doors, through play, in small groups, through art, music and sport and from each other, from adults other than teachers.

There will also be a mixture throughout the school of teaching techniques which include whole class teaching, group activities and individual work. Since we recognise that in every age group there will be children covering a wide range of ability we do make every effort to ensure that the level of the work set is appropriate to children's abilities. This means that for some of their work the children will be grouped by ability within the class.

### ENGLISH

The school has a structured approach to the teaching of English in all its aspects, namely speaking and listening, reading and writing.

- ◆ Reading - We use a variety of reading schemes to teach reading. Younger children are expected to take their reading books home with them and parents are encouraged to help. When children have finished the schemes they move on to free choice of reading materials from our school library. School book bags are available from Mike's Sports World.
- ◆ Writing – Throughout the school it is our policy to provide opportunities for children to write in a variety of ways and for a variety of purposes including using the computer as a word processor. Emphasis is placed upon quality content as well as the 'surface features' such as spelling, punctuation, correct grammar and neat presentation.



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## **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematical skills are developed from Year 1 to Year 6 through the National Numeracy Strategy. Emphasis is laid upon understanding, number work (including mental arithmetic and problem solving), shape and measures, data handling, investigations and practical activities. This work is supplemented by the use of calculators and the computer. Parents are strongly encouraged to help children master the multiplication tables and general number bonds.

## **SCIENCE**

In science equal emphasis is given to the children acquiring scientific knowledge on the one hand and developing an inquiring mind and a scientific approach to problems on the other.

## **ICT**

We aim to develop the children's capabilities in ICT through a range of curriculum activities including work within the National Curriculum subjects. This involves using information sources and IT equipment such as computer systems and software, to solve problems, to support learning and to begin to understand the implications of ICT for working life and society. In all aspects of ICT we work with the children on how they can keep themselves safe, whether using a computer, mobile phone or any other method of communication.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education is taught throughout the school, in addition to collective worship in daily assemblies. In accordance with the Blackburn Diocese Agreed Syllabus the R.E. curriculum and the collective worship are predominantly Christian. Parents have the right, if they wish to withdraw their children from Religious Education and Collective Worship. Any parents who wish to exercise this right should contact the Headteacher who will then make suitable alternative arrangements.

## **OTHER CURRICULUM SUBJECTS**

Other areas of the curriculum include geography, history, art, design technology, music, MFL and physical education. Swimming tuition is provided for all pupils in the school.

The Governors have decided that Sex Education will be taught at the school as part of Personal Social and Health Education. Year 5 & 6 girls and Year 6 boys have a Puberty talk by the School Nurse. We also include those aspects of statutory National Curriculum Science which relate to life and living processes. All teaching in these areas will have due regard to the age and understanding of the children. **Parents have the right to withdraw their children from these lessons. Any parents who wish to exercise this right should contact the Headteacher who will then make suitable alternative arrangements.**