



ST PETER'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'In Jesus, we learn, live and grow together'

Be The Good Soil (Mark 4: 1-20)

Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact for Outdoor Learning

Outdoor Learning Intent

At St Peter's Church of England Primary School, we have designed our Outdoor Learning curriculum with the intent that our children will become inquisitive, adventurous and curious learners. Our approach to Outdoor Learning allows children to gain a deeper understanding of the world around them, notice the relevance of the knowledge they gain within the classroom to everyday life and realise their role in the world. We intend to provide experiential learning opportunities which engage, excite and motivate learners, allow them to apply knowledge and understanding to a real life context and demonstrate that learning extends way beyond the classroom.

We have created a cross curricular approach to Outdoor Learning, which provides numerous links to subjects and topics studied throughout the school. We intend to use our outdoor area to support learning across the curriculum, providing a 'hands on' learning and enrichment opportunities which engage our pupils, challenging those who are most able and providing an alternative learning environment for those who may struggle within the classroom.

We see the use of the outdoor area as a vital opportunity to not only develop subject knowledge and skills, but to also develop children's spiritual, emotional and social awareness. With regular access to nature and wildlife, we intend to instil a sense of awe and wonder of the world that God created and reinforce our responsibility for the world around us. Children are reminded of their role as stewards on God's earth and are encouraged to act on this appropriately, in keeping with our school mission statement 'Be The Good Soil'.

Our approach to Outdoor Learning will:

- Provide various links across the curriculum
- Celebrate and develop respect for the world around us
- Improve children's life skills and experiences
- Encourages our children to be inquisitive about the world around them and appreciate that learning extends way beyond the classroom

Outdoor Learning Implementation

- The Outdoor Learning curriculum is led and overseen by Miss R Kelly who will monitor, evaluate, review and celebrate good practice.
- Links to possible Outdoor Learning opportunities are made across the curriculum, from EYFS to KS2.
- Children have regular access to areas such as Woodland Walk and the outdoor reflection area to aid spiritual, emotional and social awareness.

In EYFS Outdoor Learning is used to support learning through play, develop children's confidence and decision making skills. Children have constant access to a well-resourced outdoor area, which adults use to plan and deliver purposeful learning opportunities. The role of the adult in the outdoor area aims to develop children's independence as learners, children are encouraged to take ownership of their learning and develop decision making and problem solving skills throughout their play. In keeping with the whole school focus on reading, the Early Years outdoor area provides engaging opportunities for children to apply and extend their knowledge of phonics through interactive games, high quality resources and our inviting outdoor reading area.

In Key Stage 1 and 2, children begin to apply the knowledge they gain within the classroom, across the curriculum, to a real life context within the high quality and well resourced, outdoor area. Various links are identified between Outdoor Learning and the overarching theme being studied in each area of the curriculum, teachers then plan for high quality lessons which make use of the outdoor area. Obvious links to outdoor learning include Science topics such as 'Habitats' in Year One, 'Bees Lifecycle/ Pollination purpose' in Year Two, 'Frog Life Cycle and Pond Life' in Year Three and 'Trees/ Ecosystems' in Year Four. Links are also made elsewhere in the curriculum, with the outdoor area offering opportunities for children to explore the local area, develop map reading and compass skills in Geography, use the outdoor area to gain photography skills in Computing and the outdoor reflection area offering a space for reflection time.

Children throughout the school also benefit from enrichment opportunities in the outdoor area, the use of our allotment area sees each class assigned a vegetable to plant, grow and harvest. The process allows children to gain an understanding of where our food come from, as well as developing a sense of responsibility for the upkeep of their vegetables whilst they are growing. Our children gain a great sense of pride and achievement from this experience, knowing their actions have contributed to the successful growth of vegetables.

Outdoor Learning Impact

Here at St Peter's, we believe that the impact of Outdoor Learning will enable the children to have a deeper understanding of subject knowledge throughout the curriculum and the world around them. All children will develop an appreciation and respect for the outdoors, understand their role in the world and how this may be impact future generations. With frequent access to outdoors and nature, children will develop their social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing to ensure that each child can 'live life in all its fullness'. Children will be immersed in first hand experiences which will inspire and motivate and also develop their vocabulary, communication skills and their independence as learners. The impact will of Outdoor Learning will be seen by all teachers and children enjoying the experience of teaching and learning and understanding the relevance of the knowledge gained in everyday life.

Outdoor Learning at St Peter's develops pupils'...

- Knowledge and understanding of the world around them
- Understanding of the relevance of knowledge gained within the classroom in everyday life
- Social, emotional and spiritual awareness
- Critical thinking skills and the ability to assess and manage risks whilst learning in the outdoors
- Skills across the curriculum, for example map reading and compass skills in Geography and investigative skills in Science
- Independence as learners, decision making and problem solving skills
- Resilience and problem solving skills, which will aid their resurrection mind set

Outdoor Learning at St Peter's encourages pupils to...

- Consider their place in the world, the role that they have and how their actions may impact future generations
- Develop their sense of self and engage in periods of reflection
- Appreciate and respect the world around them
- Recognise the world around them as a resource which offers endless learning opportunities

Religious Education at St Peter's enhances pupils'...

- Vocabulary through immersing children in first hand experiences
- Personal and social communication skills
- Attitude towards learning, providing motivating and engaging opportunities which excite learners

Outdoor Learning at St Peter's offers...

- Life experiences, of which some children may not be fortunate enough to have undertaken elsewhere
- Opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development.