



Selston Church of England Infant and Nursery School

Curriculum statement

Intent

At the heart of our infant school curriculum is the belief that every child is a unique individual, full of potential and deserving of rich, meaningful learning experiences. We aim to nurture confident, curious, and compassionate learners who are equipped with the foundational knowledge, skills and values to flourish now and in the future.

As a Church of England school, our Christian values underpin our curriculum and our ethos. Through Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education, we support the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of each child. Children learn to value themselves and others, develop empathy, and reflect on their place in the world. We help them navigate their emotions, build resilience and form healthy relationships.

We place a strong emphasis on well-being, inclusion, and equality of opportunity. Our curriculum is designed to meet the diverse needs of all learners, including those with SEND and those entitled to the Pupil Premium. Through high-quality teaching and a nurturing approach, we ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed and feel a sense of achievement.

Our curriculum is built around the core principle that communication is central to a child's ability to thrive. Through a strong emphasis on language development, reading, writing and self-expression, we support children to become confident communicators and thoughtful listeners. These skills underpin all learning and are essential for building relationships, solving problems, and participating in life's opportunities.

We prioritise the development of early reading and mathematical fluency. Our systematic and engaging approach ensures that children not only acquire the technical skills to read and calculate but also develop a genuine love of books and an enthusiasm for solving problems. Mathematics and English are woven through the curriculum and taught in real-life contexts to support deep and lasting understanding.

Our curriculum is knowledge-rich and carefully sequenced, but also deeply rooted in creativity, exploration, and purpose. Children learn through doing—investigating scientific ideas, designing purposeful products, expressing themselves through music and art, and developing physical skills through structured and active play. These experiences allow them to explore the world around them, develop independence, and learn to collaborate with others.

We value and teach each subject as a distinct discipline, providing children with a broad and balanced education. From understanding their own heritage through history to exploring different places and cultures through geography, children gain a wider perspective of the world and their place in it. Through computing and design technology, they build critical thinking skills and learn to apply knowledge in purposeful, creative ways.

Ultimately, our intent is to create a safe, stimulating and joyful learning environment in which children are encouraged to explore, take risks, and develop a lifelong love of learning. We want our pupils to leave our school with strong foundations in learning, a sense of who they are, and the belief that they can make a difference in the world.


Big ideas




Humankind
Understanding what it means to be human and how human behaviour has shaped the world.




Processes
Understanding the many dynamic and physical processes that shape the world.




Creativity
Understanding the creative process and how everyday and exceptional creativity can shape the world.




Place and space
Understanding the visual, cultural, social, and environmental aspects of places around the world.




Investigation
Understanding the importance of investigation and how this has led to significant change in the world.




Comparison
Understanding how and why things are the same or different.




Materials
Understanding the properties of all matter, living and non-living.



Significance
Understanding why significant people, places, events and inventions matter and how they have shaped the world.



Nature
Understanding the complexities of the plant and animal species that inhabit the world.



Change
Understanding why and how things have changed over time.

Mission statement

Opening hearts and minds through the grace and love of God

At Selston Infant and Nursery School children always come first and we try to nourish, challenge, prepare and inspire them within a Christian ethos.

We believe in valuing all who contribute towards the successful running of our schools including children, parents, carers, governors, teaching and non-teaching staff.

This Mission Statement lies at the heart of our schools' aims. It is the philosophical basis for all of the schools' policies and through these, for everything that happens in and round our schools. Our aspiration is for everyone at Selston to:

- feel happy, secure, safe and valued at school
- develop a growing awareness of their own inner self and spirituality, and of the power of the Christian faith to transform lives
- develop healthy relationships based on care, trust, compassion and forgiveness
- show acceptance for and understanding of others who may have different beliefs or needs
- strive for the highest standards of achievement, developing the confidence and skills to be independent, motivated and self-disciplined learners
- have a positive approach to life, contributing to the well-being of the community and building hope for the future

We hope that children will leave our schools with open hearts and minds, ready to respond to the opportunities that lie before them and to experience the joy of life in all its fullness.