

# Curriculum Policy

November 2015



<b>Date Reviewed</b>	<b>October 2015</b>
<b>Signed</b>	
<b>To be Reviewed</b>	<b>November 2016</b>

## Vision

At Ilfracombe Church of England Junior School we place great importance on meeting the needs of every child; developing them holistically by building upon their strengths in an atmosphere where everything is possible. It is an individual experience which is not limited by the size of the school nor the structure of its buildings, but which draws its inspiration from the potential of every pupil.

In Ilfracombe we are totally committed to the development of children as successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to their community and the world beyond. We constantly challenge ourselves to offer them the best opportunities and experiences that nurture a lifelong love of learning.

As a Church of England Junior School We aim to build strong links between home, school and the parish, fostering a caring attitude to the environment and the needs of the local and world wide community. We strive to educate pupils to fulfill their potential, within the framework of Christian principles and values.

Our school has a positive and caring Christian atmosphere in which every individual is valued and it is this ethos on which our foundations, focus and aspirations are built.

## The “Big Picture” of the Curriculum

### What we are trying to achieve:

- Skills – the functional skills of numeracy, literacy and confidence with ICT and in addition personal, learning and thinking skills to maximize their individual potential
- Knowledge & Understanding – a curriculum that broadens their understanding of the world they live in.
- Personal Development – an appreciation of their needs and the needs of others and a fostering of attitudes and dispositions that promote learning and citizenship.

### Context for achievement:

At Ilfracombe Church of England Junior School our curriculum is developed within the context that **every child matters**. Lessons not only provide an opportunity for learning but capitalize on the positivity of enjoyment. Our life skills programme is central to the school’s philosophy and develops an appropriate life skill in every child, It is through activities such as “coping in the home,” “forest school,” “school council” & “cookery” that we promote the ideas of being safe, healthy, active participants as well as beginning the preparations to be economically active members of our community.

## **The Organisation of Learning:**

Planning within year teams is both thorough and comprehensive, identifying learning opportunities to meet individual needs and promoting high standards of behaviour.

Subject teams plan and monitor the development of knowledge, understanding and skill development throughout the school.

The development of wider values, awareness of issues and it is promoted by dedicated teams focusing on health & well being and the environment.

There is a collective responsibility amongst all staff to promote enquiry based learning.

Healthy lifestyle including the use of daily physical activity and brain gym exercises, increase every child's individual capacity to learn and maximize the curriculum on offer.

## **Extra-Curricular Opportunities:**

Positive playtimes – this promotes a pro-active approach to breaks in the curriculum, where pupils are supported and encouraged to broaden their experience and foster positive relationships with other children.

After school activities – focus on enjoyment and the development of social skills.

## **How we monitor our success:**

Assessment – is regular, formative, involves the children themselves and enables both teachers and children to understand individual progress made and set personal targets for improvement. Summative assessments are evaluated regularly and the results are used to formulate the school's annual development plan, including refining intervention strategies, structuring staff development activities and setting whole school improvement targets.

The 'learner voice' - This is actively promoted through the school council, which meets weekly as part of the life skills programme.

## **The School and the Community:**

At Ilfracombe Church of England Junior School we utilize our Christian foundation to provide a learning community based on inclusion, which values the individual contributions of all of it's children and through them reaches out and embraces the local community.