

Subject Story: Life Learning

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our value of **Friendship**

- Children are taught to identify and develop positive relationships and how to respond to those which are negative or risky.
- Staff and children use restorative approaches and these are referred to explicitly where appropriate.
- Teaching is adaptive to the interests, concerns, needs and wants of the children.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our value of **Responsibility**.

- Children develop independence and responsibility for their belongings and contributions.
- Children develop responsibility for their learning.
- Children know where money comes from, how to keep it safe and manage it.
- Children know the importance of being active, having a healthy diet and good mental health.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our value of **Honesty**.

- Children understand that mistakes are part of their learning and their growth mind-set.
- Honesty is explored through stories (Story Project) and school values.
- Children develop the strategies needed to move on after being honest.
- Children learn how to be open and respectful.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our value of **Love**.

- Teachers promote a love of learning.
- Children are taught different ways of expressing love and know there are different types of love.
- Embedding of the notion that “Everyone is equal” from all staff.
- Children learn to be open and respectful, showing sensitivity as they form positive relationships.
- Children know what makes them unique.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our value of **Courage**.

- Children are taught to voice feelings and worries in a way they are most comfortable with, e.g. in front of the class during lessons or through worry box/monster.
- In an age appropriate manner children are taught and develop the skills to keep themselves safe in different situations.
- Opportunities are provided for children to collaborate together and develop discussions.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our value of **Respect**.

- Teachers value inclusivity and use inclusive language. One example includes ‘police officers’ rather than ‘policemen’.
- Diversity is celebrated by responding to the diversity of children’s cultures, faiths and family backgrounds.
- Lessons taught reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others; embracing differences and accepting others reflecting our British Values.



Children at St. Martin’s say this about Life Learning:

- “We love calm down time, we love the chime.” **EYFS**
- “We like how we learn about the different changes and that these are good changes.” **Year 1**
- “Our lessons have been really interesting and I have learnt a lot.” **Year 2**
- “I like to reflect and be calm, as I enjoy that and learning new things.” **Year 3**
- “I now have a book about body changes at home so I can learn even more.” **Year 4**
- “I love being about to talk about things going on at the moment and being able to reflect.” **Year 5**
- “You can change nothing about Life Learning, it is perfect.” **Year 6**



If you were to walk into a Life Learning lesson at St. Martin's you would see:

- Progressive vocabulary related to the subject taught.
- Children articulating their viewpoints and opinions in a supportive learning environment.
- Continual reference to the school's values and links with real life to help children make connections with their learning.
- Quality First Teaching and scaffolding tailored to those requiring additional support and challenge.
- Questioning promotes reflection and evaluation.
- All children being encouraged to experience the fullness of life and appreciate the awe and wonder in the theme or topic being explored.
- Children who are respectful; who listen to others and considerate to others working as a whole class or small group.
- Hands-on and practical learning experiences including outside speakers.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see children learning through **exciting, engaging learning experiences which develop their 'cultural capital'**.

- Visitors in school to support teaching and learning for example; RNLI, emergency services, road safety and the NHS.
- Coherently planned charity days and events that reinforce messages of tolerance and respect; deepening an understanding of the world and supporting children's social development.

Our agreed consistencies for Life Learning are:

- Use of the Jigsaw scheme to support the delivery of Life Learning.
- PLT member (one child per class).
- Kindness Leader (selected children).
- Worry Box/Worry Monster.
- Use of Life Learning books.
- In EYFSs & KS1, use of Learning Scrapbooks to showcase learning.



In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **work with resilience – strive.**

- During lessons, as there is no right or wrong answer children can be brave and increase their resilience.
- Through discussion children can make comparisons to their own life and consequently consider their actions and choices. This applies to the experiences and events experienced and shared by children within our unique and diverse school community.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **dream big - aspire.**

- Children are taught to reflect on not only what they have learnt but also what learning they take away from each session.
- Staff help to shape children's attributes and dispositions and help them to aspire to be the citizens they wish to be. This helps guide them as they go into the wider world.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **flourish - succeed.**

- Through teaching and learning children achieve well. This is evident in outcomes for Life Learning.
- They demonstrate success by living out our school values which are investigated and embedded through our teaching.
- Class teachers ensure all pupils are leaders and that this is shared publicly and recorded.

In our Life Learning curriculum you will see that we value **inclusion and diversity**.

- The use of Jigsaw to support the teaching and learning of different family backgrounds.
- The use of the Jigsaw curriculum to deepen children's understanding of tolerance and respect and of the changing world around them.
- Opportunities for children to collaborate together and develop discussions.



In our Life Learning curriculum you will see how we develop our children's language, **including subject specific and technical vocabulary**.

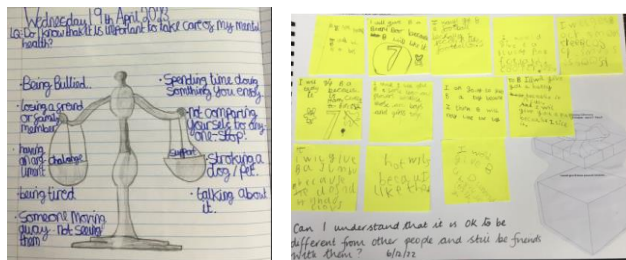
- Progression in vocabulary linked to the learning content is detailed within the Life Learning Progression of Knowledge and Skills and is in line with the increasing expectations and learning experiences set out for the children at St. Martin's.

British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Learning (SMSC) in Life Learning:

Spiritual – Through high quality interactions and discussions within lessons links are made to their morals and values. Teachers help children to be able to reflect upon important concepts, experiences and beliefs through lessons, assemblies and visitors. **Moral** – Through teaching and learning, children learn about different cultures and how these can assist them to understand and develop their own beliefs, values and morals thus being able to accept and embrace differences. **Social (inc British Values)** – Children are taught and encouraged to appreciate each another's viewpoints, similarities and differences. This supports the British Values of respect and tolerance. Children are prepared with life skills to use in the present and the future. These values are interwoven throughout the curriculum. **Cultural** – Diversity is celebrated through exploring other cultures and through the Story Project stories. To support this, diversity is continually represented through teaching in each year group.

Children achieve well in this subject. Highlights of **outcomes** in Life Learning for last academic year are:

- EYFS 93% working at expected or above in 'Building Relationships' Early Learning Goal.
- KS1 89.5% working at the expected level or above.
- KS2 95% working at the expected level or above.



Successes in 2023-2024

- Jigsaw curriculum embedded throughout the school to enhance teaching and learning.
- Visitors to the school to bring learning alive.
- All children within the school taking leadership roles which are shared publicly.
- Visitors in school; RNLI, Fire Safety and the NHS
- Children able to articulate what they have learnt for assessment and to monitor progress.

Priorities for 2024-2025

- Children receive high quality teaching.
- Children's wellbeing and resilience improved.
- All children demonstrating our values.
- Staff confident in teaching Life Learning topics.
- Children understand that they are valuable individuals and recognise that they need a balanced lifestyle to thrive - linking to the curriculum and celebrated i.e. during Walk to School events.
- RSE consultation with parents.