

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:

- “I like learning all about me. I love holding the jigsaw piece.” **EYFS**
- “It is peaceful during chime time and we get to talk about our lives.” **Year 1**
- “All of our lessons are fun. We loved the calm chime and learning about our body parts.” **Year 2**
- “I like to reflect and be calm, as I enjoy that and learning new things.” **Year 3**
- “I really enjoy being able to talk about different life experiences.” **Year 4**
- “I have become more reflective about life” **Year 5**
- “What I learn about in Life Learning helps me make decisions and be reflective.” **Year 6**

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**.

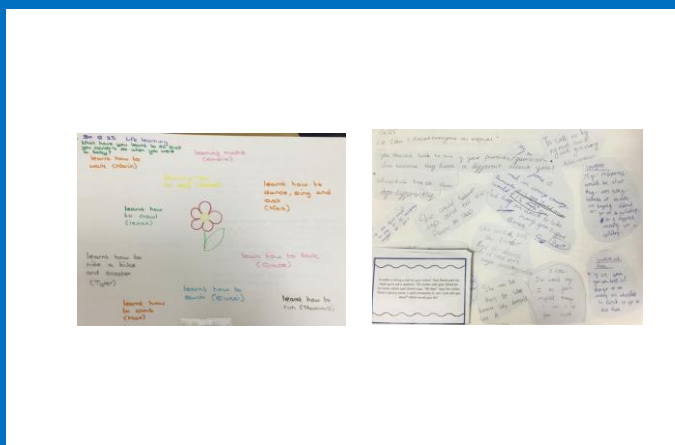
- Progression in vocabulary linked to the learning content is detailed within the Life Learning Progression of Knowledge and Skills and is in line with the increasing expectations and learning experiences set out for the children at St. Martin's.

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 95% working at expected or above in 'Building Relationships' Early Learning Goal.
- KS1 94% working at the expected level or above.
- KS2 94% working at the expected level or above.



Successes in 2024-2025

- 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, Road Safety and Fire Safety
- Children able to articulate what they have learnt for assessment and to monitor progress

Priorities for 2025-2026

- Children receive high quality teaching.
- Improve children's wellbeing and resilience.
- All children demonstrating our values.
- 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.
- More visitors into school.
- New staff confident in teaching Life Learning.