

Curriculum Intent at St William of Perth

At St William of Perth we believe that our most important role as educators is to develop in our children a love of lifelong learning where natural curiosity, creativity, an inquisitive nature and a desire to explore the world and their own passions is encouraged.

We know that knowledge precedes creativity. With this understanding, we aim to ensure that through a culture rich curriculum where vocabulary is taught and not caught, children will have the key to unlocking a wealth of knowledge that is both rich and diverse.

We understand that cultural capital is an accumulation of knowledge, behaviours and skills that one can tap into to demonstrate their competence and thus one's social status in society which impacts on their opportunities and life chances is improved.

We address this by ensuring that the curriculum coverage at St William of Perth is both broad in diversity and rich in high level vocabulary. We seek to whet the appetite of our children to yearn for more knowledge and we actively encourage self-initiated learning from Early Years all the way through key stages one and two and beyond.

By acknowledging that all learning stems from stories of discovery and culture rich literature, and by making strong links between all topics learned, we can strengthen their cultural competence, knowledge and skills and above all, enjoyment of being educated.

We anchor learning across the curriculum through high quality texts selected by the Power of Reading scheme and other topic-linked texts; utilise outdoor learning opportunities; promote well-being and self-confidence, develop children's understanding of where they are in the world and what is out there for them to discover!

We recognise the importance of transition opportunities from as young as Year R to 1. The pedagogical approach we use in Early Years emphasises child-initiated learning through the curiosity approach. Continuous provision then takes place in the initial terms of Year 1 to provide a natural transition. This approach transpires across all other year groups where curiosity is celebrated and knowledge is regularly built upon previous knowledge in a classroom environment that celebrates the diversity of knowledge learned not only within the year group, but building upon previous years and preparing children for the years to come and those beyond Year 6.

Through high quality teaching and learning in computing, we are preparing our children for the world of the future as well as giving them the support and confidence they need to get on in the physical and online world that they are currently living. As is the case with all subjects, these elements of computing are also interweaved with the rest of the curriculum so that children can see where computer skills are required in all aspects of life across the whole world.

We believe a growth mindset removes the risk for learned helplessness, so alongside quality first teaching, we embed the training and development for children to control outcomes and achievement by recognising they have the ability to improve and grow through their own actions and perseverance so that they leave St William of Perth with learned mastery and optimism.

Children of St William of Perth receive a wealth of cultural capital and a joy and thirst for learning. They are prepared for the world; they are ready for their future.