



SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Mission Statement: To live, love and learn in the footprints of Jesus.

Our Early Years Curriculum





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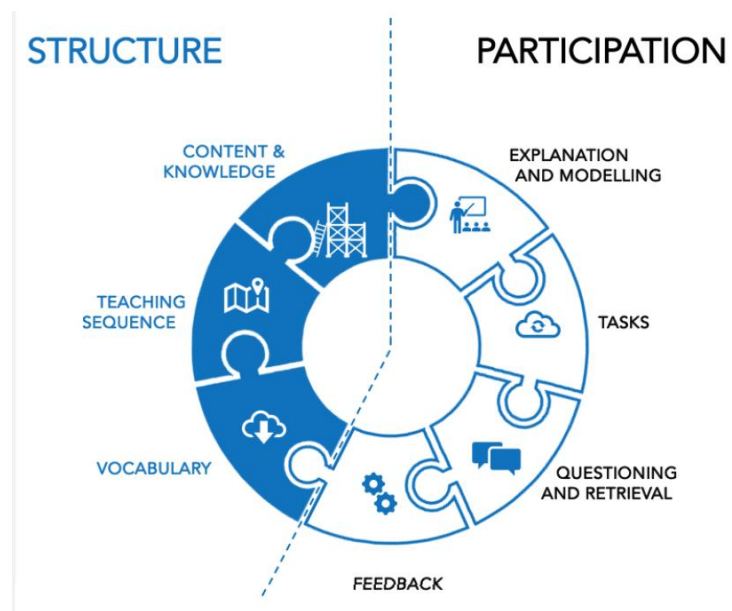
Our Early Years Curriculum

We firmly believe that the curriculum on offer to our pupils offers them an exceptional education. Our long-term sequences are built from cognitive science and research, including retrieval and spaced-retrieval practice; they are connected and cumulative.

Subject coverage is planned sequentially and with a clear rationale for making connections with prior learning; conscious and precise choices have been made to position learning into this architecture.

Our aim is to increase fluency and reduce cognitive load. By doing this, we have constructed a curriculum that demands pupils to attend to their learning and reuse what they know and can do. Subjects are positioned to support and enhance learning so that pupils retrieve and transfer knowledge.

Deep knowledge and vocabulary understanding is underpinned by evidence-led teacher development. Timetables focus on curriculum studies to increase motivation, pace and connection.





Class 2: Reception

2025 - 2026 curriculum sequence on a page

Autumn 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Structured Story Time Texts (CUSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes Me a Me The Squirrels Who Squabbled - Rachel Bright Standing up to Racism - Dr Pragya Agarwal Celebrations from Around the World - Katy Halford <i>Curriculum will be further enhanced by books matching to theme and child interest.</i> 	Structured Story Time Texts (CUSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Wolf's Pancakes – Jan Fearnley Tad – Benji Davies William Bee's Things That Go- William Bee Luna Loves Art – Joseph Coelho The Story Orchestra – Katy Flint 	Structured Story Time Texts (CUSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Up Martha Maps it Out Anansi and the golden Pot Each Peach Pear Plumb The Gingerbread Man
Drawing Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funnybones Little Red Hen The Colour Monster Guy Fawkes CBeebies Poppy Fields Rama and Sita 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hungry Caterpillar Mr Gumpy's motor car The Dot The Great Race 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three Little Pigs Three Billy Goats Rosie's Walk The Greedy Zebra
Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter formation Daily name writing Using letters to represent meaning Writing CVC words Drawing Club RWI Get Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter formation Name Writing Phonetic attempts at words using emergent phonics Writing CVC/CVCC words Writing simple captions Drawing Club RWI Get Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter formation Name Writing Phonetic attempts at words using emergent phonics. Finger spaces between emergent words Sentence writing with capital letters and full stops. Drawing Club RWI Get Writing
Maths White Rose Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match, sort and compare Talk about measurements and patterns It's me, 1,2,3 Circles and Triangles 1,2,3,4,5 Shapes with 4 sides. Mastering Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subitising within 3 Counting skills Composition of numbers 3 and 4 Comparing sets and using language of comparison Explore the concept of 'whole' and 'part.' Object counting skills/ Matching numerals to quantities within 10. Verbal counting beyond 20. 	White Rose Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alive in 5 Mass and Capacity Growing 6,7,8 Length, height and time Building 9 and 10 Explore 3D shapes Mastering Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subitising within 5 One more than a given number. Making unequal sets equal. Comparing sets of objects and using language of comparison. Composition of numbers 5, 6 and 7. Ordering numbers to 8. Doubles Odd and Even numbers 	White Rose Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To 20 and beyond How many now? Manipulate, compose and decompose Sharing and grouping Visualise, build and map Make connections Mastering Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counting larger sets of objects. Subitising to 6. Composition of numbers to 10 Automatic recall of number bonds to 5 Number patterns Counting
Communication and Language The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively. Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive. Through conversation, story-telling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures.		
Expressive Art and Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-Portraits Harvest Songs Christmas Cards Nativity College – Poppy Sketching – Poppy Bonfire Night art Bread making Christmas Cards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreate famous works of art – Henri Matisse, Andy Goldsworthy, Jackson Pollock, Piet Mondrian (Luna Loves Art) Spring Sketches (Luna Loves Art) Composition of animal sounds (The story of Orchestra) Sketching vehicles from the past (William Bee's Things that Go) Class Celebration of the Word 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and make gingerbread men (Gingerbread Man) House models Crowle Show Painting Class Celebration of the Word Father's Day Cards

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CUSP - Listen to music from different celebrations and play along with different instruments. (Celebrations from round the world) CUSP – Food tasting from different celebrations. (Celebrations from round the world) CUSP – Colour mixing skin tones (Standing up to racism) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mather's Day Cards 	
PSED Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.		
Understanding the World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seasons My Family My School Body Parts All about Crowle Bonfire Night – Guy Fawkes Remembrance Day Diwali 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seasons Sorting types of transport Transport Past and present, Wright Brothers Amelia Earhart How we grow CUSP – Planting seeds, seed diaries. (Mrs Noah's Garden) CUSP – Lifecycle of a frog (Tad) CUSP – Vehicle models (Things that Go) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seasons Little Pig Houses, Billy Goat Bridge Make a <i>Gingerbread Man</i> boat Compare and contrast <i>Homes and Houses past and present</i> (Each Peach Pear Plum) Animal homes - habitats Recycling (Clean up) Comparison of traditional Ghanaian life and ours (Anansi and the Golden Pot) Comparison of climate, environment and habitats – Crowle and African Savanna. Famous Explorer - Christopher Columbus
Physical Development Get Set 4 PE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to PE: Unit 2 Dance: Unit 2 Personal Hygiene Hand Washing Oral Hygiene Dough Disco Daily Fine Motor Name Writing 	Get Set 4 PE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gymnastics Unit 1 Gymnastics Unit 2 Personal Hygiene Hand Washing Oral Hygiene Dough Disco Daily Fine Motor Name Writing 	Get Set 4 PE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gymnastics Unit 1 Gymnastics Unit 2 Sports Day Gym Jam Jog Personal Hygiene Hand Washing Oral Hygiene Dough Disco Daily Fine Motor Name Writing
PSHE / RSE / Safeguarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bonfire and firework safety awareness Anti-Bullying Week Brake Road Safety Week Journey in Love Ten:Ten Module 1 – Created and Loved by God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe hand-washing Safer Internet Day Journey in Love Ten:Ten Module 2 – Created to Love Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Safety Talk Journey in Love Ten:Ten Module 3 – Created to Live in Community
RE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branch 1 – Creation and Covenant Branch 2 – Prophecy and Promise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branch 3 – Galilee to Jerusalem Branch 4 – Desert to Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branch 5 – To the Ends of the Earth Branch 6 – Dialogue and Encounter



Class1: Nursery

2025 – 2026 curriculum sequence on a page

Autumn 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Structured Story Time Texts (CUSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Body Book – Hannah Alice My Hair – Hannah Lee My Family and Other Families – Richard and Lewis Edwards-Middleton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Errol's Garden – Gillian Hibbs The Good Egg – Jory John Astro Girl – Ken Wilson-Max The Way Back Home – Oliver Jeffers Mr Wolf's Pancakes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Suitcase – Chris Naylor-Ballesteros Tidy – Emily Gravett The Queen's Hat – Steve Antony I am Nefertiti – Annmarie Antang
Further Texts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Story of Guy Fawkes The Nativity Rama and Sita The Little Red Hen Colour Monster <p>Additional texts will be based on topic and child interest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle Once There were Giants Jasper's Beanstalk The Easter Story <p>Additional texts will be based on topic and child interest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goldilocks and the Three Bears Little Red Riding Hood Three Little Pigs <p>Additional texts will be based on topic and child interest.</p>
Phonics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Sounds Listening Sounds Body Percussion Rhythm and Rhyme Initial Sounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Sounds Listening Sounds Body Percussion Rhythm and Rhyme Initial Sounds RWI Fred Talk Introduced RWI Fred Games using physical objects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Sounds Listening Sounds Body Percussion Rhythm and Rhyme Initial Sounds RWI Fred Talk RWI Fred Games using physical objects. Teach Set 1 photo cards
Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children add meaning to marks they make. Children to form 5 pre-writing shapes. Children to make marks using a variety of resources. Children begin to distinguish between the marks that they make. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit skills from Advent Term. Write some familiar letters. Write some of the letters in their name. Drawing closed shapes with continuous lines. Imitate writing using circles and shapes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit previous skills. Write first name using correct letter formation. Drawing with increasing complexity and detail.
Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise, name and match colours Recognise and match 2 D shapes Sorting objects by size, colour and shape Number 1 - 2 – Subitising, counting, numeral Recognising and extending AB colour patterns Recognising and extending AB movement patterns Recognising and correcting ABC colour patterns Number Blocks 1 - 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number 3 - 6 – subitising, 1-1 counting, composition of number. Using 5 and 10 frames. Height and Length – Tall/Short, long/short. Explore Mass. Explore Capacity Number Blocks – 3 - 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequencing Positional Language More than/fewer than Recognise, match and name 2D shapes Recognise, match and begin to name 3D shapes. More than/fewer than One more/one less Revisit numbers to 5 Number Blocks 5
Communication and Language The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively. Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive. Through conversation, story-telling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures.		
Expressive Art and Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painting and craft– Poppies Painting – Bonfire Christmas Cards Nativity - Singing and performance Painting – Self portraits Drawing – Self-portrait sketches Making Bread 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawing – Flowers Making rockets using various media. Design and make pancakes. Craft –Easter Art Mather's Day Cards Space songs – exploring instruments. Singing – Daily nursery rhymes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CUSP – body percussion (Nursery Rhymes) CUSP – making and playing percussion instruments (I am Nefertiti) CUSP – Exploring floating and sinking. (Tidy) Painting – Crowle Show Singing – Daily nursery rhymes Father's Day Cards
PSED Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.		

Understanding the World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Seasons throughout the year – weather/changes in environment/clothing. • Exploring melting ice. • CUSP – Explore images of different families exploring similarities and differences. (My Family and Other Families) • CUSP – Explore changes in your body after exercise. Label main body parts. (The Body Book) • Significant person – Guy Fawkes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observing plant growth (The Tiny Seed, Jasper's Beanstalk) • Life cycle of humans. (Once There Were Giants) • Life cycles. (The Good Egg) • Naming planets (Astro Girl) • Significant Person – Tim Peak (Astro Girl) • Changing Seasons throughout the year – weather/changes in environment/clothing. • Exploring fruit and vegetables (Errol's Garden) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CUSP- Naming UK landmarks (Queen's Hat) • Changing Seasons throughout the year – weather/changes in environment/clothing. • Traditional music around the world (I am Nefertiti) • Simple journeys and maps (The Suitcase) • Sun safety • King Charles official birthday
Physical Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sitting on the carpet correctly to build core strength • Begin to use cutlery independently • Begin to make marks using various tools. • Begin to form lines and circles with more control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving in various ways under and over objects. • Begin to dress and undress independently. • Begin to use one handed tools and equipment • Begin to use cutlery independently • Create closed shapes with continuous lines. • Start to add more detail to drawings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using correct resources to carry out a task. • Ride trikes and scooters safely and with control. • Show a simple understanding of why we need to be active. • Begin to dress and undress independently. Begin to use one handed tools and equipment with control. • Use a static tripod grip • Begin to use cutlery independently • Form first 5 pre-writing shapes accurately.
PSHE / RSE / Safeguarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonfire and firework safety awareness • Anti-Bullying Week • Brake Road Safety Week • Journey in Love • Ten:Ten Module 1 – Created and Loved by God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe hand-washing • Safer Internet Day • Journey in Love • Ten:Ten Module 2 – Created to Love Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Safety Talk • Journey in Love • Ten:Ten Module 3 – Created to Live in Community
RE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branch 1 – Creation and Covenant • Branch 2 – Prophecy and Promise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branch 3 – Galilee to Jerusalem • Branch 4 – Desert to Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branch 5 – To the Ends of the Earth • Branch 6 – Dialogue and Encounter