



St James' Catholic Primary School

Physical Education Policy

Mission Statement

St James' is a Catholic School and all aspects of life in the school are influenced by the Gospel values of love, peace and justice.

St James Primary School recognises the vital contribution of Physical Education (PE) to a child's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development as well as the role it can play in a child's spiritual, moral and cultural development.

The school aims to provide a broad and balanced PE curriculum to aid children's increasing self-confidence in their ability to manage themselves and their bodies within a variety of movement situations. Through a balance of individual, paired and group activities, the school aims to cater for the different strengths, needs and preferences of each child, using differentiated activities where appropriate. The school supports the view that through the variety of opportunities that PE offers, children can develop a sense of personal achievement, fair play, teamwork and an understanding of the ways in which sport can transcend social and cultural boundaries.

The school plans a range of activities that aim to provide children with a broad base of movement knowledge, skills and understanding, which they can refine and expand throughout their primary school years. All children are encouraged to join clubs and extend their interest and involvement in sport.

Through the Government Funding for sport, where possible, the school will provide opportunities for pupils to work with PE specialists. The funding will support PE training by providing opportunities for teachers to work alongside specialist teachers.

The school offers outdoor education opportunities for children. Different experiences for different age groups ensure all will get a range of appropriate challenges as they move through the school.

Aims:

Physical development:

- To develop physical competence and confidence by acquiring and developing a range of fine and gross motor skills.
- To be aware of the different shapes and movements that can be made with the body.
- To develop knowledge, skills and understanding, and the ability to remember, repeat and refine actions with increasing control and accuracy.
- To promote fitness and a healthy lifestyle by understanding the effects of exercise on the body and the importance of developing strength, endurance and flexibility
- To appreciate of the value of safe exercising.

Social and emotional development:

- To develop a love of physical exercise.
- To develop the ability to work independently and communicate with, and respond appropriately towards others using verbal and non-verbal communication.
- To develop confidence in their own skills and abilities.
- To promote an understanding of safe practice, and develop a sense of responsibility towards the safety of themselves and others.
- To realise that the right exercise for you can be fun and will give you energy for other things in life.
- To create and plan games and teach them to one another.
- To develop a sense of fair play.

Cognitive development:

- To develop decision making and problem solving skills.
- To develop reasoning skills and the ability to make judgements.
- To develop an increasing ability to select, link and apply skills, tactics and compositional ideas.
- To develop the ability to communicate non-verbally with the body

- To improve observational skills, the ability to describe and make simple judgements on their own and others' work, and to use this knowledge and understanding to improve their own performance.
- To understand that using the correct technique will improve accuracy and individual performance.
- To be able to evaluate performance and act upon constructive criticism

Spiritual, moral and cultural development:

- To develop a positive attitude to themselves and others.
- To experience a range of differing activities and realise that physical activity doesn't have to be about winning a competition - doing your best is as important.
- To be able to encourage others and give praise for their achievements so that when children perform they do not fear failure.
- To treat your team, the opposition and the referee with respect.
- To raise self esteem through opportunities to celebrate sporting success.

The PE Curriculum:

We aim to provide a well balanced curriculum which covers the statutory requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the PE National Curriculum.

In the Reception Class (EYFS), opportunities are provide for children to be active and to develop their co-ordination, control and movement through moving and handling activities which involve the use of a range of equipment and involve different spatial experiences. Structured lessons and opportunities for outdoor physical activity amount to at least two hours each week.

Pupils in both Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2) engage in two hours of high quality PE during the course of each week. In KS1 the curriculum focuses on fundamental movement skills to develop agility, balance and co-ordination. Curriculum content includes ball skills and team games, gymnastic and dance activities. At KS2 pupils continue to apply and develop a range of skills and units of work include a range of invasion, net / wall, and fielding and striking games, gymnastics, dance, athletics and swimming. The school also enriches children's experiences through opportunities for outdoor and adventurous activities on the schools forest school site.

Swimming:

It is the Birmingham City council policy that all children should swim by the age of twelve. Therefore, swimming lessons are compulsory for all children. At St James, children learn swimming in Year 6 with qualified swimming coaches and school staff who have attended swimming training. Year 6 children who are still unable to swim and need the extra sessions will take part in a two week block at the end of year. The guidelines recommend appropriate swimwear i.e. a one piece costume for girls and trunks (not baggy shorts) for boys.

Curriculum Differentiation

At St James we use the principle of STEP for adjusting lesson activities for differentiation. Some children with particular needs may require different activities, for example with a particular focus on fine motor skills if hand to eye coordination is a challenge.

S = change the space available

T = change the time allowed

E = change the equipment, e.g. softer or larger balls, different sized bats, etc

P = change the people, e.g. size of the groups

Staffing/Staff development

Each class teacher takes responsibility for planning, teaching and assessing the PE curriculum for their class.

All staff take part in professional development to ensure secure subject knowledge and awareness of health and safety procedures. Staff should be comfortable and competent in the area of activity being taught. Staff should indicate where they feel they need support so that appropriate support can be given by either the subject leader, specialist sports coaches or outside providers through INSET. All staff who attend CPD courses must provide feedback/ disseminate the information.

Due care and attention is taken when organising the timetable so that the most efficient use of facility and pupil time is taken into consideration, e.g. consecutive gym lessons when using equipment.

Safety

As with all physical activity, it is important that certain procedures are followed to minimise the risk of injury.

- Children should dress in shorts, tracksuit bottoms and t-shirts.
- Children will work in bare feet for all indoor and apparatus work.
- Trainers are worn for outdoor games, together with tracksuits if it is cold.

- Jewellery is not to be worn. Watches should be kept safely in a container in the classroom.
- Long hair should be tied back and rigid headbands should be removed. 5
- Children will be trained to lift and carry any apparatus sensibly into position under adult supervision. The teacher will check it before use.

Safeguarding

All adults working with children in school are to be checked for appropriate CRB/DBS clearance. This includes coaches working for a term at a time as well as staff working on a one off basis or with clubs. Children in Year 5 and 6 are not expected to change together. Sports Coaches are asked to sign disqualification statements as per Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Out-of-School-hours Learning (OSHL)

The schools extra-curricular programme compliments and supplements the range of activities covered in curriculum time. The planned programme for 2024/2025 reflects a breadth and balance across the NC areas of activity, including dance, games and athletics. The school follows a range of inter-school fixtures, tournaments and festivals within the partnership. At the beginning of each term, we publish a documented timetable of clubs. The extra-curricular content aims to be varied – including competitive and non-competitive and team- and individual based clubs appropriate for all pupils.

School Club Links:

The school seeks to make links with local community clubs whenever possible, e.g.

links with Warwickshire County Cricket club and also promotes activities at local clubs via the school newsletter.

Links with other subjects:

PE can link to other subjects, e.g. Literacy, (recount/report/ instructions), Science (body parts/pulse rates) and Maths (shape/position/directions/counting and graphical representation of data). ICT is also recognised as a potential tool for recording movements and actions to develop children's ideas as well as the appropriate use of audio visual and data logging equipment.

Equality:

All aspects of PE are taught in such a way as to include all children regardless of their gender, background, culture or physical ability. Learning objectives are set in line with the schools Special Needs and Equality Policies.

Records and Assessment:

Assessment for learning is made through short term (daily/weekly) observations of children's work, through discussion with the children and through their own self assessment. Assessment of learning is made through medium term (summative) assessments and long term (formative) assessments.

School Sports Partnership (SSP):

St James' is a member of the SSP with access to curricular support, competitive opportunities for our pupils and training for staff via the partnership. The school aspires to the 7 High Quality National Outcomes which guide the work of all SSP's. These are:

- Increased participation in High Quality Physical Education.
- Increased Participation in High Quality Out of School Hours Learning.
- Increased Participation in High Quality Informal Activity.
- Increased attainment and achievement through PE and Sport.
- Improved behaviour and attitude in PE, Sport and whole school.
- Increased participation in competitive and performance opportunities.
- Increased involvement in community sport and improved quality of community life.

Summary:

At St. James we believe PE to be an integral part of the curriculum to be enjoyed by all children. It is a real opportunity for both teacher and child to consolidate and work on the values that underpin our school and its beliefs.

Monitoring and Review:

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Governors' Curriculum Committee and reviewed on an annual basis.

Review: Spring 2025