

St. Wilfrid's CE Primary Academy Curriculum Overview 2025-2026 Year 2



<u>Term:</u>	<u>Autumn Term 1</u>	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1 Summer Term 2	
Focus Theme:	Island Adventures	Planet Protectors	All Aboard!	Fantastical Tales	Animal Detectives	
Focus Theme Summary	'Island Adventures' combines geography and art as children explore the theme "Where in the world have you been?" Through the focus text 'Katie Morag's Island Stories' by Mairi Hedderwick, children learn about life on a remote island, gaining insights into different geographical features and cultures. In art, they create collages of sea creatures, blending creativity with their understanding of marine life. As part of their home learning project, children build island models, bringing their knowledge of islands to life. A visit to the Sea Life Centre further enhances their learning, allowing them to observe sea creatures up close and deepen their connection to the topic.	"Planet Protectors' encourages children to explore geography and science through the lens of environmental stewardship. Linked to the Geography theme "Where in the world have you been?" and the study of everyday materials in science, children learn about the importance of sustainable practices. The focus text 'Dear Earth' by Isabel Otter, inspires them to think critically about protecting the planet. Through discussions and activities, children consider the impact of human actions on the environment. A visit to the Sea Life Centre further emphasises the importance of conservation, giving them a real-world perspective on the marine ecosystems they aim to protect.	'All Aboard!' takes children on a journey through the history of transport, focusing on events beyond living memory. Linked to Design Technology, children explore and use mechanisms like wheels and axles by designing and building moving vehicles. The focus text 'The Boy Who Biked the World' by Alistair Humphreys inspires them with stories of adventure and exploration. A visit from a spaceman brings the wonders of space travel to life, while a Transport Through the Ages workshop allows children to explore the evolution of different modes of transport, deepening their understanding of how innovation has shaped the world.	'Fantastical Tales' merges creativity with storytelling as children delve into an art unit on drawing and painting, inspired by the artist Paolo Uccello and his depictions of dragons. Using the focus text 'The Dragon Machine' by Helen Ward, along with other fantasy stories, children explore the enchanting world of mythical creatures. In art, they learn techniques to bring these fantastical scenes to life. For their home learning project, children design a warning poster about dragons on the loose, combining their artistic skills and imaginations.	'Animal Detectives' immerses children in the study of animals and their habitats, focusing on life cycles and the diversity of living things. Through a comparison of a non-European locality, such as Kenya, children explore different ecosystems and the animals that inhabit them. The focus text The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson guides their understanding of nocturnal animals and their behaviours. In addition, The Gorilla Who Wanted to Grow Up, also by Jill Tomlinson, supports children's exploration of animal development and independence. This heart-warming story of a young gorilla learning to grow up encourages children to reflect on how animals (and humans) change as they grow and the challenges they may face along the way. An owl and bird of prey workshop provides a hands-on experience, bringing the subject to life, followed by a visit to Martin Mere, where children can observe a variety of birds and other creatures in their natural habitats, deepening their connection to the natural world.	
<u>Hook:</u>	Postcard from Isle of Strauy	Images of Pollution and a letter from Wigan Council about litter	Spaceman Visit to school	Dragon visits the classroom	Owl and Birds of prey visitor	
Home Learning Project	Island model	Litter pick activity and photo	Research and Design Project: a mode of transport	Make a warning poster about dragons on the loose	Animal fact file or Animal Model	
<u>Showcase</u>	Curriculum Presentation	Read Persuasive Speeches to Year 1	Art/DT Exhibition		Perform poems to Reception Children	
Focus Theme Enrichment	Blue Planet Aquarium		Transport and Travel through the Ages workshop		Martin Mere	

Subject Area:	<u>Autumn Term</u>		<u>Spring Term</u>		Summer Term	
Focus Reading Text:	'Katie Morag's Island Stories' by Mairi Hedderwick Katie Morag Island Stories Something Fishy (Literacy Shed)	Dear Earth by Isabel Otter	'The Boy who Biked the World' by Alastair Humphreys	The Dragon Machine by Helen Ward Dragon Machine	'The Owl Who Was Afraid of The Dark' by Jill Tomlinson Jill Tomlinson The Owl Who Was Afraid of to Dark	The Gorilla Who Wanted to Grow Up by Jill Tomlinson
<u>English</u> <u>Poetry</u>	Read, Analyse and Compose - Poetic forms and device: Acrostic	Read and Analyse - Narrative: Lucky Pebble by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater	Read, Analyse and Recite: The Moon by Robert Louis Stevenson	Read, Analyse and Recite: Child's Song in Spring by E. Nesbit	Read and Analyse - Classic: Nature Trail by Benjamin Zephaniah	Read, Analyse and Compose: The Sound Collector by Roger McGough
English Writing Focus:	(NF) Baseline: Letter Post Card holiday (N) Literary description: Character of Granny Island (N) Narrative: Own version of Something fishy including a setting description (P) Acrostic poem: Island life	(NF) Persuasive speech: speech encouraging the public to look after the environment (informal) (NF) Letter: Plastic Pollution Government (formal) (NF) Informative leaflet: How to protect the environment (formal)	(NF) Diary Recount: Tom - The Boy Who Biked the World (NF) Fact file: being an astronaut (N) Narrative: A story opening, planning a journey	(N) Narrative: Fantasy guidebook based on Instructions (NF) Book review: The Dragon Machine (N) Narrative: Own version dragon story	(NF) Non-Chronological Report: Owls (N) Narrative: Plop's first flight (1st person) (NF) Instructions: How to make a fruit salad animal	(NF) Persuasive Poster: Save the Gorillas! (P): Poetry: Own version of the idea of a sound collector
End-of-Day Enjoyment (text suggestions linked to all termly curriculum subjects)	Above and Below: Sea and Shore by Harriet Evans & Hannah Bailey The Lighthouse Keepers Cat by Ronda & David Armitage Lighthouse Keepers (at	Clean up by Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola Greta and the Giants: by Zoë Tucker One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul	by Aaron Becker Astro Girl by Ken Wilson-Max Amelia Earhart By Isabel Sanchez Vegara	George and the Dragon by Christopher Wormell George and the DRAGON Instructions by Neil Gaiman	Weird and Wonderful Extinct Animals by Cristina Banfi Big Picture Atlas by Emily Bone & Daniel Taylor	The Journey Home by Frann Preston-Gannon The Lost Species by Jess French and Daniel Long Yeti and the Bird by Nadia Shireen

Subject Area:	<u>Autumn Term</u>		<u>Spring Term</u>		Summer Term	
Mathematics	Number - Number and Place Value Number -Addition and Subtraction	Number - Multiplication and Division Number - Fractions Measurement Geometry - Properties of shapes	Geometry – Properties of shapes Number - Number and Place Value Measurement Number – Multiplication and Division	Number -Addition and Subtraction Number - Fractions Number - Multiplication and Division Geometry - Position and Direction Statistics	Number - Number and Place Value Number -Addition and Subtraction Measurement Number - Multiplication and Division Geometry	Number – Multiplication and Division Measurement Number -Addition and Subtraction Number – Fractions
<u>RE</u>	The Bible: Why is it such a special book? Links to World Faiths: Do people of all world faiths have holy books?	Christmas: Why was the birth of Jesus such good news?	Jesus: Why did Jesus welcome everyone?	Easter: How do symbols help us to understand the Easter story?	Ascension and Pentecost: What happened at the Ascension and Pentecost?	The Church: Why is the Church a special place for Christians? Links to World Faiths: Why are holy buildings important to people of faith?
Computing	Key skills Digital Content Purple Mash	Algorithms Purple Mash	Technology Beyond the school Purple Mash Internet communication Purple Mash	Creating and Presenting Data	Spreadsheets	Digital Art Purple Mash Creating Music Purple Mash
<u>Science</u>	Uses of everyday materials		Plants		Animals, including Humans Life cycles of animals and Healthy Eating	Living things and their Habitats
<u>History</u>	Changes within Living Memory & Significant historical event, people and places in locality Mining in Standish		Events beyond Living Memory Transport		Lives of significant individuals Florence Nightingale and other Famous Nurses	
Geography	Where in the World have you been? (Human and Physical Geography, Geographical Skills and Fieldwork)				Comparison of a Non-European Locality: Kenya (Location Knowledge and Place Knowledge)	

Subject Area:	<u>Autumn Term</u>		<u>Spring Term</u>		<u>Summer Term</u>	
Art and Design	Artist and Architect- Gaudi Collage - Sea Creature Mosaic		Artist - Paulo Uccello Drawing and Painting - Dragons		Artist - Pavitra Eshwar Textiles - Wall hanging	
<u>Design and</u> <u>Technology</u>	Puppets (Joining – simple sewing stitch)		Moving Vehicles (Explore and use mechanisms –wheels and axles)		A Healthy Dish (Cooking and Nutrition Topic)	
Physical Education	Fundamental Movement Skills Dance Swimming	Invasion Games Dance Swimming	Athletics Swimming	Gymnastics Swimming	Racket and ball games Swimming	Striking and fielding Swimming
<u>Music</u>	Exploring Pulse and Rhythm	Performing	What's That Sound? Timbre	Pitch Recorders	Structure Recorders	Rehearsing and performing
<u>PSHE</u>	Being Me and Building Friendships	Keeping Safe and Being Kind: Understanding Myself and Others	Understanding Ourselves, Our Families, and Our Feelings	Taking Care of Me: Staying Healthy and Safe	Using the Internet Safely and Respectfully	Everyday Choices: Caring, Money, and Staying Safe Online

Me You World God

Spirituality

At St. Wilfrid's, we believe spirituality is within everyone; we are all created in the image of God and valued for who we are. Spirituality is about how we connect with ourselves, others, the world around us, and with God through love. We nurture spiritual development through daily collective worship, our curriculum, reflection, creativity, and by living out our Christian Values. Through worship, children experience opportunities such as singing, prayer, stillness, and reflection, helping them to flourish and live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10).

The Year 2 curriculum nurtures self-spirituality by encouraging children to reflect on their own feelings, experiences, and aspirations while developing a personal connection to Christian concepts and stories. Lessons foster introspection, empathy, and self-expression, validating children as individuals and supporting them in forming their own understanding of faith and values.

Children engage with activities that invite them to explore their personal world, such as discussing their favourite or special books and most treasured possessions, before linking these ideas to why the Bible is considered special to Christians. In the Christmas unit, they reflect on their own experiences of receiving or sharing good news, while in Jesus as a Friend they explore how friendship, inclusion, rejection, and healing relate to their own lives. In the Ascension and Pentecost unit, they reflect on their feelings about saying goodbye and creatively express the story through dance, music, painting, acting, and creating their own symbols for the Holy Spirit.

The curriculum also promotes personal agency and responsibility. Through the story of Mary Jones, children consider the effort she made to obtain a Bible and reflect on ways they can make a difference in their own lives. They explore the work of Christian charities, brainstorm how they could share the good news at Christmas, and discuss how actions reflect beliefs.

Dear Earth places a strong emphasis on identity, aspirations, and dreams for the future. Children share places they would like to explore, write about their goals, and pin their aspirations to a world map before composing letters to the Earth that celebrate their hopes and future ambitions. These activities explicitly validate each child's unique individuality and potential. Island Adventures topic allows them to reflect on their own travel experiences or desired destinations, while creating collages and island models that express their understanding of the theme.

Through Planet Protectors, children consider how their individual actions can contribute to caring for the environment, and in All Aboard! they imagine journeys they might like to take and explore how transport has shaped their own world. Fantastical Tales provides opportunities for creative self-expression through the creation of dragons and imaginative warning posters, while Animal Detectives encourages children to make connections between the life cycles of animals and their own growth and development.

Creative arts are a strong feature in supporting personal spirituality. Opportunities for individuality are promoted through dance, music, and painting in the Pentecost unit, collage creation in Island Adventures, and drawing and painting inspired by The Dragon Machine in Fantastical Tales. Visits and workshops, such as the Sea Life Centre, Martin Mere provide moments of awe, wonder, and reflection, deepening children's connection to the natural world and their sense of place within it.

Children are given time to consider how their uniqueness affects their feelings, how they build relationships, and how they respond to others and situations.

Discussions help children understand their own internal landscape and, implicitly, their differences from others, which is foundational to understanding how their individual selves relate to and interact with the world and its people.

Lessons directly address how individuals respond to various scenarios, acknowledging individual differences in emotional responses to external stimuli. This highlights individual agency and strategies for navigating situations based on their feelings of safety and encourages reflection on their decision-making process in social contexts.

In the "Jesus, friend to everyone" unit, personal reflection on their own feelings of rejection and healing is used to help children empathise with characters like the Ten Lepers and understand the impact of Jesus' actions. Children are encouraged to talk about their own experiences and feelings and respond sensitively to questions about their own and others' experiences and feelings. By exploring their own spirituality and emotional landscape, they are better equipped to understand and relate to the feelings of others. The unit also prompts children to make links between a person's behaviour and what that person believes, a skill that encourages thinking about the internal motivations that drive external behaviour.

The unit on the Dead Sea Scrolls encourages perspectivetaking by asking children to imagine being the boy who found them, what they would tell friends, why they think they were hidden, why they are important, and what they look like.

"All Aboard!" promotes social skills, teamwork, and respect for others' ideas through collaborative design tasks.

"Fantastical Tales" encourages collaboration on imaginative projects, fostering listening and respect for each other's ideas.

"Animal Detectives" unit socially promotes cooperation and teamwork through shared learning experiences.

The Year 2 curriculum provides rich opportunities for children to develop a sense of World spirituality by fostering awe and wonder for the natural world, encouraging care for the environment, and helping them to recognise their place within a wider global context. Lessons and thematic units enable children to explore landscapes, wildlife, and ecosystems, while developing an understanding of the impact of human actions and their own potential to contribute positively to the planet.

A key example is the **Dear Earth** literacy focus theme, which invites children to explore the world, articulate what they love most about it, and share where they would like to explore in the future. The theme begins by building a personal connection with the natural world as a foundation for environmental stewardship. Children discuss their favourite landscapes, observe images of different habitats, and record descriptive language to express their responses to these scenes. They research endangered animals, exploring issues such as hunting and deforestation, and consider what actions could heal and protect the Earth. These discussions lead to meaningful outcomes, including persuasive speeches and informative leaflets encouraging others to care for the planet. Through letter writing, children celebrate the beauty of the world, share their dreams and aspirations for exploration, and express their personal commitment to environmental protection.

Similarly, **Planet Protectors** integrates geography and science to develop an understanding of sustainable practices. Children are encouraged to think critically about the impact of human actions and to explore practical ways they can contribute to conservation. A visit to the Sea Life Centre reinforces this by allowing children to witness marine ecosystems first-hand and to reflect on their responsibility for the natural environment.

The Island Adventures focus theme builds children's geographical awareness by asking them to reflect on the question, "Where in the world have you been?" Through the focus text Katie Morag's Island Stories by Mairi Hedderwick, children explore life on a remote island, gaining insights into different cultures and geographical features. Art and home learning projects, including the creation of sea creature collages and island models, encourage them to visualise and express their connection with Island environments.

Visits and experiences throughout the curriculum further enhance World spirituality by providing moments of awe, wonder, and real-world connection. The owl and bird of prey workshop, alongside the visit to Martin Mere, offers opportunities to observe living creatures up close, deepening their appreciation of biodiversity and habitats.

Through these experiences, the Year 2 curriculum nurtures children's sense of belonging to a wider world, helps them develop empathy for the planet and its living creatures, and encourages them to see themselves as capable of making a positive difference to the environment and alobal community.

The Year 2 curriculum provides a strong foundation for developing Beyond spirituality by encouraging children to explore abstract concepts, big questions, and the mystery of faith. Lessons and units invite them to engage with ideas that go beyond the tangible, fostering curiosity about God's nature, the meaning of religious events, and the impact of spiritual beliefs on people's lives.

In the Ascension and Pentecost unit, children are prompted to reflect on the belief that Jesus is always with them and to consider how the wind of the Holy Spirit changed the disciples and continues to influence people today. This introduces them to the concept of the Holy Spirit as an unseen, transformative force, helping them to make sense of how a spiritual presence might be experienced in everyday life. They also discuss their ideas of heaven, offering a space to articulate personal thoughts about life beyond the physical world.

The curriculum actively supports children in seeking meaning in religious stories and events. For example, in the Christmas story, children discuss the shepherds' reaction to the news of Jesus' birth and are challenged with the question, "Why did God choose to tell the shepherds this good news?" This encourages reflection on God's intentions and actions within the story. They also explore why proclaiming Jesus' life story as "good news" makes a difference compared to simply calling it a story, deepening their understanding of the significance of this narrative for Christians.

The Jesus, friend to everyone unit focuses on exploring the identity and behaviour of Jesus. Children ask and respond to questions such as "Why did Jesus welcome everyone?" and "What did Jesus want us to learn from his behaviour?" They reflect on what these stories reveal about Jesus' character and how they connect to Christian beliefs, encouraging theological thinking at an age-appropriate level.

Abstract and transcendent ideas are further explored as children discuss how Jesus can be with them always and how the Holy Spirit continues to guide Christians. They are encouraged to prepare their own questions to ask a member of clergy about the Bible's use and its meaning for believers, giving them a direct opportunity to seek understanding from a religious authority. Throughout these discussions, children are often invited to begin their contributions with "I think...", promoting personal reflection and an internal search for meaning.

In exploring world faiths, children also learn about Sikh practices of prayer and the role of the Guru Granth Sahib, enabling them to reflect on the similarities and differences between spiritual traditions and how they express the divine. Overall, the Year 2 curriculum nurtures Beyond spirituality by enabling children to engage with big questions about life, existence, and belief, to reflect on intangible ideas such as the Holy Spirit and heaven, and to develop their capacity to find meaning in religious narratives and practices.

Subject Area: **Autumn Term Spring Term Summer Term** Our Year 2 Curriculum promotes children's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development, ensuring that they are **SMSC** prepared to be reflective about and responsible for their actions as good citizens. 'Island Adventures' 'Planet Protectors' 'All Aboard!' 'Fantastical Tales' "Animal Detectives" encourages children to reflect supports Spiritual encourages children to on the diversity of animals and the wonders of the encourages children to encourages children to reflect on the beauty reflect on how transport use their imagination, natural world, fostering a sense of awe, curiosity, development by fostering a sense of and wonder of the has transformed lives creativity, and sense of and spiritual appreciation. Through stories such as 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' and 'The wonder about the natural world. and societies over time. wonder through They explore human storytelling and art. Gorilla Who Wanted to Grow Up', children explore natural world. developing a sense of particularly through awe and responsibility Spiritually, children themes of fear, independence, and growth, helping creativity, perseverance, studying sea life and for the planet. and ambition through reflect on the power of them to develop empathy and moral understanding exploring the uniqueness Moral development historical innovations stories and the meaning of both animals and human experiences. Socially, of island habitats. The and inspirational behind mythical the unit promotes cooperation and teamwork arises through visit to the Sea Life discussions about the journeys. The creatures. Morally, they through shared learning experiences like the owl consider themes of workshop and the visit to Martin Mere. Culturally, Centre provides consequences of human exploration of space opportunities for awe, actions on the travel sparks awe and bravery, kindness, and children gain an appreciation for wildlife in different parts of the world, such as Kenya, and develop a curiosity, and reflection. environment, helping wonder, while responsibility often Moral development is children distinguish right found in fantasy tales. greater awareness of global diversity and the discussions about global encouraged through from wrong and travel and Socially, they importance of protecting ecosystems for future discussions about consider ethical choices. communication foster collaborate on aenerations. such as reducing plastic environmental appreciation for cultural imaginative projects, responsibility and the diversity and shared listening to and use or recycling. importance of Cultural development is human progress. respecting each other's supported as children Collaborative design ideas. Culturally, they protecting marine ecosystems. As children learn about global tasks promote social explore traditional tales explore island life in environmental skills, teamwork, and and mythical creatures from different cultures. different contexts, they challenges and how respect for others' ideas. different communities deepen their developing an understanding of how around the world are appreciation for diverse affected and respond, geography influences beliefs and storytelling culture and lifestyle, fostering appreciation traditions.

especially in comparison

to their own experiences.

for diversity and

interdependence.

'Island Adventures' supports Equity and Inclusion by encouraging all children to share their own experiences of travel, family origins, or cultural links to different places, fostering a sense of belonging and respect for diverse backgrounds. Through the study of Katie Morag's Island Stories, pupils explore a culture different from their own, promoting Diversity awareness and helping them understand that communities can thrive in a variety of environments and settinas. Discussions around island life provide opportunities to challenge stereotypes and broaden children's understanding of family structures, traditions, and ways of life that may differ from their own, helping build empathy and global awareness.

'Planet Protectors' promotes Equity and Justice by empowering all children to understand their shared responsibility in caring for the Earth, regardless of background or ability. Through the text Dear Earth and accompanying discussions. children explore the global impact of environmental issues, developing awareness of how climate change and pollution often disproportionately affect less advantaged communities. This encourages empathy, fairness, and a deeper understanding of global inequality. The unit also fosters Inclusion by valuing every child's ideas and actions towards sustainability, promoting a sense of agency and shared purpose. Celebrating diverse voices in environmental activism (such as indigenous communities or young global campaigners) highlights Diversity and the importance of listening to a wide range of perspectives in

protecting our planet.

'All Aboard!' showcases diverse global journeys and experiences through The Boy Who Biked the World, helping children understand different cultures and communities. The celebration of inventors and pioneers from various backgrounds reinforces the idea that innovation is universal and not limited by gender, race, or nationality. Collaborative projects and hands-on tasks promote inclusion by valuing everyone's contributions, encouraging empathy, respect, and a shared sense of achievement.

'Fantastical Tales' encourages children to explore a wide range of mythical creatures and stories from different cultures, broadening their understanding of global folklore and traditions. Through creative expression, all children are given a voice to share their unique ideas, fostering an inclusive environment that celebrates imagination and individuality. The focus on collaborative projects like designing warning posters also promotes teamwork, respect for others' perspectives, and equal opportunities to contribute creatively.

"Animal Detectives" encourages children to explore and appreciate the diversity of living things and the variety of ecosystems around the world, including those in a non-European locality such as Kenya. This broadens their understanding of global biodiversity and helps them value different environments and cultures. Through texts like 'The Gorilla Who Wanted to Grow Up', children consider themes of growth, independence, and emotional development, supporting inclusion by acknowledging that everyone—animals and humans-face challenges at their own pace. The unit encourages children to recognise that all creatures. regardless of where they live, deserve care and respect, promoting fairness and environmental justice. Additionally, through shared discussions and inclusive group activities such as workshops and visits, every child's contributions and perspectives are valued, fostering a respectful and inclusive learning environment.

Christian Values

Our Christian Values underpin all of our Curriculum at St. Wilfrid's: FAIR, FORGIVE, TRUST, HOPE, LOVE, JOY, COURAGE, KIND and PEACE.