

Why does my child take tests and assessments?

Assessments help us to evaluate your child's progress.

The children are set individual targets in English and Mathematics and their progress is then monitored throughout the year. These targets are initially set using the results from their Key Stage 1 assessments.

Towards the end of each year, usually in May, we carry out national tests in English and Mathematics to assess how your child is progressing. At the end of Key Stage 2 the children will also be assessed on Science.

These tests are very important for your child and the school, as it helps us to assess any areas of difficulty they are experiencing. We are then able to take steps to address these problems. In Year 6 the results of these assessments go with them to their new school.

It is important that your child is in attendance for these assessments as it provides vital information about your child's learning.

Some children may go on to take the 11+ exam in Year 6, which takes place in early January. This will help determine whether they could be offered a place at the local grammar school.

How can I find out more?

If you would like to find out more about the National Curriculum, we have a school Curriculum Policy that is available. Please contact the office on 01622 754666 if you would like a copy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. We hope that you will find this helpful in understanding your child's education.

How can I help support my child's education?

Continuing support at home, for your child, is very important. When covering new topics, your child will be introduced to new words and concepts and to be able to recount what they have been discussing that day, with you, is invaluable.

Homework is often an extension of the work done in school. It helps reinforce the ideas that they have been learning. By ensuring homework is supported at home but also allowing your child the independence to carry out the work, enables us to see whether they have fully understood what has been taught.



**ARCHBISHOP COURTENAY
C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

College Road
Maidstone
Kent

Phone: 01622 754666

Reference; School Curriculum Policy and The National Curriculum at www.nc.uk.net

**ARCHBISHOP COURTENAY
C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The National Curriculum

A guide for parents



Firing their imaginations

Tel:01622 754666

Why do we have the National Curriculum?

It provides a framework for your child's education; ensuring that continuity can be provided across the country if children need to move or change schools.

It allows for all children to have an equal opportunity to learn, setting standards and common aims. At its core, it strives to develop, in the children, a knowledge and understanding of themselves and others. The curriculum aims to instil values to help the children make good judgement throughout life by ensuring they have a good sense of right and wrong.

How does the National Curriculum work in my child's school?

The school aims to ensure the National Curriculum is accessible for **all** children irrespective of gender, race, class, disability or religious beliefs. The class teacher will identify any individual needs the children may have that need to be addressed.

If a child has special needs, their needs will be met within the class room situation by the class teacher. Appropriate resources will be used and support given from the teacher or Teaching Assistants to ensure the curriculum is accessible. The school follows the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Code of Practice.

Children for whom English is an Additional Language (EAL) will be supported through work adapted to the individual child's needs.

We also recognise Gifted and Talented children and ensure that they are encouraged and challenged through differentiated work.

Our main aims

At Archbishop Courtenay we:

- Have a broad based curriculum to take into account the rich multicultural society which makes up our community
- Have high expectations of all our children and encourage positive attitudes towards learning
- Provide a learning environment that will inspire children to learn
- Assess children's work to ensure access to the whole curriculum and provide support where needed
- Develop confidence and self-esteem by promoting children's awareness and respect for themselves and others
- Instill values that enable children to recognize the importance of respecting others.

How is this applied to lessons?

English

Through English we aim to develop a child's skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. By encouraging these skills we aim to develop a child's ability to put thoughts into words imaginatively and enable them to express independent ideas and opinions.

Mathematics

By studying mathematics the children are learning skills which they will need in everyday life. We aim to increase confidence at dealing with mathematical problems and develop a base of mathematical knowledge and understanding, from which to build upon further as they progress through school.

Science

In Science the children have the opportunity to explore their interest in nature and the world in which they live. They have the opportunity to plan, carry out and evaluate scientific investigations. Using the evidence that they gather they are able to draw up conclusions and give reasoned explanations of their findings.

Religious Education (R.E)

As a church school R.E is an important part of the curriculum and we feel it is important to develop the children's awareness and understanding of all the main world religions. In our studies we explore the wide range of beliefs and customs to demonstrate the multicultural society we live in.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

This is a subject that is also included in the curriculum. It involves developing the children's confidence and self esteem by increasing their knowledge and understanding of themselves and others. They consider moral dilemmas, to respect differences between people, look at building relationships, learn to work with others as part of a team and discuss how to live a healthy lifestyle.

What about other subjects?

During Key Stage 2 your child will also learn about different periods of history, discover geographic facts and develop an understanding of our environment, undertake a range of musical activities, participate in a variety of games and sport, investigate different techniques for art, develop skills in Design Technology (D.T) and Information and Communication Technology (ICT).