# Nursery Curriculum

CANON JOHNSON
CofE Primary School

**Nursery Curriculum Intent**

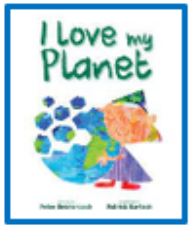
At Canon Johnson C of E Primary School, our Reception Curriculum is thoughtfully designed to provide a nurturing, stimulating, and inclusive environment where every child is recognised as a unique individual with the potential to thrive. Grounded in the Early Years Foundation Stage framework, our intent is to build strong foundations for lifelong learning and well-being, with a particular emphasis on communication, resilience, and curiosity.

We understand the importance of responding to the context of our local community, and our curriculum reflects this by prioritising early language acquisition, social development, and emotional literacy. Many of our children begin their learning journey with lower starting points, and we are committed to closing the gap through high-quality teaching, a language-rich environment, and targeted support. Our Christian school family aims to immerse every child in a diverse, thought provoking, memorable curriculum, which places all children at the heart of discovering their true potential, allowing them to become aspirational, valued contributors within an ever-changing society and global community.

The Canon Johnson Curriculum enables pupils to develop their knowledge and skills ready for each stage of their learning journey. It deepens their knowledge, enriches their understanding, and embeds skills. In our school, we split this into three phases:

- *EYFS Through play and exploration create the experiential foundations in knowledge, skills and understanding which will be built upon in the later stages of school.*
- *KS1 Building upon the firm foundations from EYFS in all areas of learning to access the wider curriculum at KS2.*
- *KS2 Build upon pupils prior learning and deepen knowledge, skills and understanding in preparation for their next stage of educational learning.*

**Characteristics of Effective Learning**

Our curriculum is underpinned by the **Characteristics of Effective Learning**, which support children in becoming enthusiastic, self-motivated learners:

- **Playing and Exploring** – We provide rich, sensory, and exploratory experiences that encourage children to investigate, 'have a go', and engage with their environment in meaningful ways.
- **Active Learning** – Children are supported to keep on trying, enjoy their achievements, and develop increasing levels of concentration and involvement in activities they care about.
- **Creating and Thinking Critically** – We offer opportunities for children to problem-solve, make choices, and reflect on what they are doing. Adults model and scaffold thinking, helping children to develop early reasoning and decision-making skills.