



# St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School

*Together, in Jesus, we Love, Learn, Create and Celebrate!*



## Cultural Capital in the St. Gregory's Curriculum

### History: Building a sense of identity, heritage and the wider world

- Studying ancient civilisations (Egypt, Greece, Maya) introduces our children to global cultures, beliefs and achievements that shaped the modern world.
- Exploring British history (Romans, Anglo-Saxons, Victorians, World War II) provides grounding in national heritage and perspectives of shared cultural narratives.
- Visits to museums, handling artefacts, or virtual tours allow children to make meaningful connections between past and present.

### Geography: Understanding place, environment and global citizenship

- Learning about local, national and global geography develops pupils' awareness of how communities live around the world.
- Case studies of contrasting localities (e.g., UK, Brazil, India and the USA) build appreciation of different landscapes, climates and cultural practices.
- Fieldwork (local walks, map reading, observing land use) roots learning in pupils' own lived experience.

### Art & Design: Exposure to great artists, ideas and creative traditions

- Studying artists from a range of periods and cultures (e.g., Hokusai, Faith Ringgold, Monet) broadens our children's artistic horizons.
- Exploring varied materials and techniques mirrors traditions from different cultures – printing, weaving, sculpture, pattern work.
- Opportunities to visit galleries and display work publicly fosters appreciation of artistic expression.

### Music: Connecting pupils with global musical heritage

- The curriculum includes classical, folk, global and contemporary traditions, giving children a rich musical vocabulary.
- Singing hymns and liturgical music in a Catholic school deepens pupils' understanding of spiritual and community identity.

- Learning instruments and participating in choir enriches cultural experience and confidence; performance is a feature of every year group, as part of their own class, classes throughout MADCOS, and mass-choirs in Liverpool Philharmonic and the optional Young Voices.

### Literature and Reading: Encountering diverse voices, classic stories and shared texts

- Reading across the curriculum introduces children to classic literature, global stories, sacred texts, poetry, myths and legends. Our class novels are intentionally selected to not only develop through vocabulary and/or syntax challenge, but also through developing understanding of unfamiliar themes.
- Themes such as courage, morality and justice develop cultural literacy and empathy.
- Author studies and storytelling traditions give children a broad repertoire of cultural references.
- Our book-based No Outsiders/All Different; All Welcome, as part of our Fullness of Life offer, gives opportunities to develop understanding of the protected characteristics, broadening visibility and emphasising compassion, understanding and mutual respect.

### Science: Understanding the world through significant thinkers and discoveries

- Learning about scientists such as Curie, Darwin, Ibn al-Haytham and Katherine Johnson highlights contributions from different cultures and eras.
- Experiments and investigations provide pupils with shared experiences of enquiry and curiosity.

### RE (particularly in our Catholic school): Developing spiritual, moral and cultural understanding

- Scripture, Catholic teaching and Church traditions provide strong spiritual and cultural foundations.
- Learning about other world religions builds respect, tolerance and global awareness.
- Celebrations, feast days and liturgical seasons embed cultural rites and practices into school life.
- Weekly and daily Celebration of the Word and Prayer fosters reflection on the needs of others, with our 'go forth' considering how we can be filled with the Spirit and inspired to do good.

### Personal Development: Preparing children for life beyond school

- Trips, visitors, clubs, and community links give pupils real-world experiences that broaden horizons.
- Teaching about significant figures, local history, and British values helps pupils understand their role in society.

- Collaboration with other schools and wider communities builds community cohesion.
- Social Signature deepens our children's sense of belonging and actively explores how they can contribute to society, leaving their mark in the world.

### Vocabulary and Oracy Development: Giving pupils the language to access culture

- The St. Gregory's curriculum prioritises and emphasises explicit teaching of rich, precise vocabulary, which empowers children to have the powerful knowledge to think with and discuss concepts across subjects.
- Structured talk, debate and storytelling build confidence and cultural fluency.
- Opportunities for oral rehearsal and recital build confidence in articulation and public speaking.
- Enrichment opportunities such as Debate Academy or public speaking and performance give children exposure to a variety of audiences.