

Bollington Cross CE Primary School

Reception Teaching and Learning Policy



Peace



Love



Hope



Faithfulness

Our School Vision

At Bollington Cross, we aspire to be a kind, open-hearted community, rooted in relationship and the Christian faith. We look to one another and when our feet slip, we overcome challenges together, enabling flourishing for all.

Our Reception curriculum reflects this vision by nurturing every child as a unique individual created and loved by God. Through meaningful relationships, rich learning experiences and a culture of belonging, children develop confidence, curiosity and resilience. We encourage children to care for themselves, others and the world around them, supporting them to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.



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Our Christian Values

The Reception curriculum is underpinned by our four core values:

Peace

Children learn to:

- Build positive relationships.
- Resolve conflicts respectfully.
- Develop emotional regulation.
- Care for themselves and others.

Love

Children learn to:

- Show kindness and compassion.
- Celebrate differences.
- Value friendship and community.
- Care for God's world.



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Children learn to:

- Persevere when learning is challenging.
- Develop confidence and resilience.
- Believe in their own potential.
- Approach new experiences positively.

Faithfulness

Children learn to:

- Be responsible and trustworthy.
- Show commitment to learning.
- Develop independence.
- Understand that growth happens over time through effort and perseverance.



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Curriculum Intent

At Bollington Cross, our Reception curriculum has been designed to enable every child to flourish within a nurturing Christian community.

Through enquiry, exploration and play, children develop the knowledge, skills and vocabulary needed to become confident learners whilst fostering a sense of wonder about themselves, others and God's world.

Our curriculum enables children to:

- Develop strong relationships built on kindness and respect.
- Understand their place within a caring community.
- Become curious explorers of the world around them.
- Build resilience and confidence through challenge.
- Develop communication and language skills.
- Gain secure foundations in literacy and mathematics.
- Experience awe and wonder through God's creation.
- Grow spiritually, morally, socially and culturally.
- Become independent learners who are ready for Year 1.



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Curriculum Drivers

Our curriculum is shaped by four key drivers:

Relationships

Children learn best when they feel safe, valued and connected to others.

Curiosity

Children are encouraged to ask questions, investigate and explore.

Flourishing

Every child is supported to achieve their full potential academically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.

Faith

Children develop an understanding of themselves, others and the world through a Christian lens, recognising the value and dignity of every individual.



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Reception Curriculum Journey

The curriculum journey reflects children's growing understanding of themselves, their community and the wider world.

Term	Enquiry Question	Big Idea
Autumn 1	I wonder what makes me special	God made each of us unique and valued
Autumn 2	I wonder what's above me	Exploring God's amazing world
Spring 1	I wonder what makes me strong	Growing in mind, in body and in spirit
Spring 2	I wonder who lives there	Caring for living things and communities
Summer 1	I wonder what grows	Understanding growth and change
Summer 2	I wonder what moves	Journeys, transitions and new beginnings



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Long Term Curriculum Map

Autumn 1

I wonder what makes me special

Curriculum Concepts:

- Identity
- Family
- Friendship
- Belonging

Christian Links:

- We are all unique and special
- We belong to God's family
- Showing love and kindness to others



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School Values:

Love

- Building friendships
- Showing kindness

Peace

- Learning routines
- Managing emotions

Key learning experiences:

- Settling into Reception
- Family celebrations
- Self-portraits
- Friendship activities



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Long Term Curriculum Map

Autumn 2

I wonder what's above me

Curriculum Concepts:

- Weather
- Seasons
- Day and Night
- Space

Christian Links:

- Awe and wonder in God's creation
- Caring for the natural world



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School Values:

Hope

- Exploring possibilities
- Asking questions

Faithfulness

- Observing changes over time
- Managing emotions

Key learning experiences:

- Weather investigations
- Seasonal walks
- Exploring constellations
- Light celebrations



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Long Term Curriculum Map

Spring 1

I wonder what makes me strong

Curriculum Concepts:

- Health
- Growth
- Wellbeing
- Resilience

Christian Links:

- Looking after ourselves as part of God's creation
- Supporting one another through challenges



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School Values:

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- Perseverance
- Confidence

Faithfulness

- Commitment
- Responsibility

Key learning experiences:

- Healthy lifestyles
- Physical challenges
- Wellbeing activities



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Long Term Curriculum Map

Spring 2

I wonder who lives there

Curriculum Concepts:

- Habitats
- Homes
- Communities
- Living things

Christian Links:

- Caring for God's creation
- Respecting differences

School Values:

Peace

- Living together harmoniously

Key learning experiences:

- Habitat investigations
- Minibeast hunts
- Community exploration



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Long Term Curriculum Map

Summer 1

I wonder what grows

Curriculum Concepts:

- Growth
- Change
- Lifecycles

Christian Links:

- Growth and new life
- Stewardship of God's world

School Values:

Faithfulness

- Patience
- Responsibility

Hope

- New beginnings

Key learning experiences:

- Gardening
- Planting seeds
- Life cycle investigations



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Long Term Curriculum Map

Summer 2

I wonder what moves

Curriculum Concepts:

- Movement
- Transport
- Journeys
- Transition

Christian Links:

- Everyone is on a learning journey
- Moving forward with confidence

School Values:

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- Looking ahead to Year 1

Faithfulness

- Reflecting on growth and achievements

Key learning experiences:

- Transport investigations
- Mapping journeys
- Transition activities



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Vocabulary Progression

Alongside topic-specific vocabulary, children are explicitly taught the language of our school values.

Peace

peaceful
calm
respect
listen
cooperate
forgive

Love

kindness
care
friendship
compassion
belong
welcome



Peace

Hope

persevere
achieve
challenge
improve
goal
future

Faithfulness

responsibility
commitment
trust
honesty
reliable
independent



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These words are
revisited
throughout the
year and modelled
in everyday
interactions

Characteristics of Effective Learning Through Our Values

Characteristic

- Playing and Exploring
- Active Learning
- Creating and Thinking Critically
- Working and Learning Together

Linked School Value

- Love
- Hope
- Faithfulness
- Peace

Children are encouraged to:

Peace

- Collaborate and solve problems together.
- Listen carefully to others.

Love

- Support and encourage friends.
- Celebrate each other's achievements



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- Keep trying when learning is difficult.
- Believe they can succeed.

Faithfulness

- Show commitment and responsibility.
- Take pride in their learning.



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Assessment Principles

Assessment at Bollington Cross reflects our belief that every child is capable of flourishing

Assessment is:

- Child-centred
- Strengths-based
- Rooted in relationships
- Informed by observation
- Used to identify next steps
- Focused on supporting flourishing for all

We celebrate:

- Academic achievement
- Personal development
- Spiritual growth
- Independence
- Resilience
- Positive relationships



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Inclusion

- In our open-hearted community:
- Every child is valued.
- Every child belongs.
- Every child can flourish.
- Differences are celebrated.
- Support is provided according to need.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure all children can access learning and achieve success.



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End of Reception Vision

By the end of Reception, children at Bollington Cross will be:

Peaceful

Children who build positive relationships and contribute to a harmonious community.

Loving

Children who show kindness, empathy and respect towards others.

Hopeful

Children who approach challenges with confidence and resilience.

Faithful

Children who demonstrate responsibility, perseverance and commitment to learning.

They will leave Reception as confident communicators, curious explorers, independent learners and valued members of the Bollington Cross family, ready to continue their journey of learning and flourishing in Year 1



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Our Reception Promise

At Bollington Cross, every child is known, valued and loved. Through strong relationships, rich learning experiences and a nurturing Christian community, we help every child flourish as they begin their lifelong journey of learning.



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