



SMT Owner	Head of Prep School
Reviewed by SMT	April 2025
Effective From	September 2025
Next Review	April 2026
Governor approval (Y/N? Approved by Board of Governors (if Y)	

# Lower Prep, St Nicholas House, Christ College, Brecon

## Years 1-6 (KS1-2)

# Curriculum Policy (KS1-2)

## Introduction

At St Nicholas House, we believe that education is a transformative journey which prepares children for life, not just for the next stage of schooling. Every child is valued as an individual and nurtured to achieve their full potential in a caring, inclusive and ambitious environment. Our curriculum policy outlines the principles, aims and organisation of our curriculum and sets out how we deliver high-quality education for all pupils.

### Vision

Our vision is to inspire children to become resilient, compassionate and curious learners who are well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the twenty-first century. We aim to foster a love of learning, a strong moral compass and a sense of responsibility, enabling pupils to make a positive difference both within their community and in the wider world.

### Guiding Principles

Our curriculum is guided by the following principles:

- **Breadth and Balance** – providing access to a wide range of knowledge, skills and experiences across all subjects.
- **Inclusion and Equity** – ensuring all pupils, regardless of background or ability, can thrive and succeed.
- **Ambition and Challenge** – raising aspirations through high expectations and rich learning opportunities.
- **Creativity and Curiosity** – encouraging independent thinking, enquiry and problem-solving.
- **Personal Development** – promoting wellbeing, resilience, respect and responsibility.
- **Community and Global Awareness** – developing an understanding of local, national and global contexts.

### Curriculum Aims

The curriculum at St Nicholas aims to:

- Provide a stimulating, challenging and engaging education of the highest quality.
- Nurture well-rounded, respectful and confident children who embody the values of kindness, courage and perseverance.
- Equip pupils with the skills for life-long learning, including literacy, numeracy, digital competence, collaboration and critical thinking.
- Encourage children to develop resilience and a Growth Mindset, enabling them to embrace challenge and learn from mistakes.
- Promote children’s physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing through sport, PSHE, outdoor education and wellbeing initiatives.
- Foster creativity and cultural appreciation through opportunities in the performing arts, music, design and the wider “2nd Curriculum.”
- Develop responsible citizens who understand themselves, their place in society and their ability to make the world a better place.

## Curriculum Implementation

Our curriculum is underpinned by the English National Curriculum and enriched through thematic and cross-curricular approaches. It is delivered through a combination of:

- **High-quality teaching** – differentiated to meet the needs of all learners and reflecting varied learning styles.
- **Assessment for learning** – embedding regular formative and summative assessment to track progress, inform planning and ensure every child is supported or challenged appropriately.
- **Inclusion and additional support** – early identification of Additional Learning Needs (ALN), English as an Additional Language (EAL) and gifted/talented pupils, with interventions and tailored provision to maximise progress.
- **Enrichment opportunities** – topic days, educational visits, residentials, workshops, assemblies, eco-committee, school council, fundraising and community engagement.
- **Wellbeing and personal development** – promoting self-esteem, resilience and emotional literacy through PSHE, pastoral care, chapel services and wellbeing programmes.
- **Digital learning** – embedding ICT across the curriculum to enhance learning, develop digital literacy and prepare pupils for the future.
- **Pupil voice** – providing opportunities for children to contribute to curriculum development, influence learning themes and participate in leadership roles.

## Curriculum Organisation

- The curriculum is taught through discrete subjects, enhanced by cross-curricular links that deepen understanding and relevance.
- A two-year rolling programme of topics is followed across to ensure coverage, continuity and progression. Flexibility allows adaptation to class structures and pupil needs.
- Long-term, medium-term and short-term planning are aligned to ensure coherence, progression and clear learning outcomes.
- Teaching approaches include whole-class instruction, group work, paired learning, independent study, enquiry-based projects and outdoor learning.
- Personalised provision is in place for pupils with ALN, EAL and gifted/talented needs, with support, scaffolding and enrichment as required.
- Performing arts, music and sport are integrated into both the core curriculum and the extended '2nd Curriculum,' enabling pupils to pursue and develop individual interests and talents.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- Curriculum delivery is monitored by the Teaching & Learning Lead through lesson observations, planning scrutiny, pupil interviews and book reviews.
- Subject leaders review curriculum coverage, progression and attainment, ensuring statutory requirements are met.
- Pupil progress is assessed regularly and outcomes are tracked to identify trends, strengths and areas for development.
- Feedback from pupils, parents and staff is considered in shaping ongoing curriculum improvement.
- Governors are provided with regular updates to ensure accountability and support strategic oversight.

## Partnerships and Community Links

We value the partnership between school, parents and the wider community. Parents are informed and involved through consultation evenings, newsletters and online platforms. Strong links with local organisations, cultural providers, sporting associations and charities enrich learning experiences and broaden horizons.

## Curriculum Map

The following academic time is spent on each subject per week:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>KS1 22 hours 45 mins</b>	<b>Lower KS2 23 hours 30 mins</b>	<b>Upper KS2 24 hours 10 mins</b>
Phonics	1.5 hours		
English - Writing	4 hours 10 mins	4 hours	4 hours
English - Reading	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours
English - Spellings		1 hour	1 hour
Handwriting	1 hour	40 minutes	
Maths	5 hours	4 hours 40 mins	5 hours
Science	1 hour	1 hour 20 mins	1 hour 30 mins
History/Geography	1 hour	1 hour 20 mins	1 hour
RE	40 mins	40 mins	40 mins
PSHE	40 mins	40 mins	40 mins
ICT	30 mins	40 mins	40 mins
Welsh	40 mins (for 1 term)	40 mins	40 mins
French/ Spanish	40 mins (for 1 term)	40 mins (1.5 terms)	40 mins (1.5 terms)
Music	40 mins	40 mins	40 mins
Art	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour 20 mins
Drama		40 mins	40 mins
PE/Games *	1 hour 55 mins	1 hour 50 mins	2 hours 40 mins
Outdoor Education *	1 hour	1 hour (1.5 terms)	1 hour (1.5 terms)

\* Additional PE/Games and Outdoor Education sessions are offered through our 2nd Curriculum programme including swimming sessions for all pupils for 1.5 terms.

Intervention sessions are timetabled to avoid missing core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

## Roles and Responsibilities

- The Teaching & Learning Lead has responsibility for the leadership of the curriculum.
- Monitoring of the provision of the curriculum is by the Teaching & Learning Lead.
- The Teaching & Learning Lead is responsible for the development of ALN and intervention provision maps and supporting the class teachers to achieve the best possible outcomes for individual pupils. The school's ALNCo, Ellen Owen, is also there to support this role.

- Class teachers ensure that the curriculum is well-planned and delivered and that the aims are achieved by each class. Class teachers regularly review and if necessary, update curriculum planning.
- The Teaching & Learning Lead regularly monitors the success of the curriculum, linking this to the yearly Self Evaluation and Development Plan.

### **Policy Review**

This policy is reviewed annually by the Teaching and Learning Lead and Head of Prep School or earlier if required by changes in statutory guidance. The review will consider the effectiveness of the curriculum in meeting the needs of all learners and achieving the aims of the school.

**Date of last review:** September 2025

**Next review date:** September 2026

This policy is reviewed annually.

Reviewed: September 2025