



# St Uny Church of England Academy Curriculum Teaching & Learning Principles



## Mission Statement:

We believe each child is special, unique and loved by God. We provide a broad, balanced and creative education within a stimulating, inclusive and safe environment, inspired by Christian faith and practice.

'Let your light shine before others...'  
Matthew 5:16

## Statement of Intent:

At St Uny CE Academy we view the design of the curriculum as an evolving and fluid process which takes into consideration: the needs and character of our children; the children's prior learning; children's experiences; the community in which school exists, the statutory curriculum (National Curriculum) and educational research which is evaluated and relevant to our school. We have designed a curriculum which inspires, engages and challenges learners so that they know more, remember more and understand more.

**Intention 1: To build a curriculum, with reading at its core, which develops learning and results in the acquisition of knowledge so that they know more, remember more and understand more.**

**Intention 2: To build a curriculum which nurtures children's learning behaviours and develops a curiosity towards the exploration of knowledge so that they know more, remember more and understand more.**

**Intention 3: To build a curriculum which ensures children know right from wrong, celebrate diversity and are equipped well to live with Jesus Christ and others so that they know more, remember more and understand more.**

## Teaching & Learning Principles:

At St Uny CE Academy we apply these core teaching and learning principles across the curriculum. These principles lead to consistent, high quality teaching across all year groups. Learners are provided with opportunities to build on prior learning and apply new concepts so they know more, remember more and understand more.

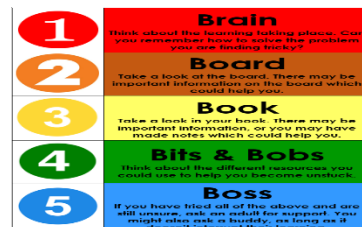
## Growth Mindset:

At Uny CE Academy we encourage our pupils to develop their independent learning skills and apply a positive growth mindset to their learning. We have six learning powers woven throughout our curriculum which are designed to teach our pupils how to learn successfully and live well with each other. These skills are developed in all curriculum lessons with a whole-school focus each half term.



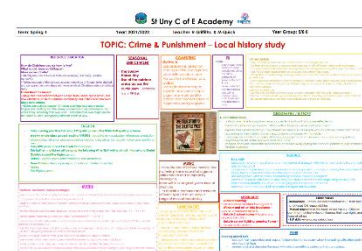
Pupils are also challenged to develop their independent learning skills and to work independently when faced with challenging learning.

At St Uny CE Academy we use the 5B approach to overcoming challenges. All teachers use these to support pupils in becoming more independent in their learning.



**Planning:**

At St Uny CE Academy, medium term planning is used to support teachers in making cross-curricular links and ensuring curriculum coverage is in place for all subjects. Curriculum plans are communicated with parents / carers via the school website.



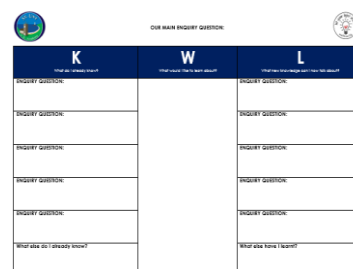
**Sequenced Learning:**

At St Uny CE Academy, curriculum units are sequenced into small steps so that pupils learn in a way which enables them to build on prior learning and make links. The learning within a specific lesson is identified through the use of an enquiry question: a small step towards answering an overarching enquiry question for the unit. At St Uny CE Academy teachers also plan for a 'final outcome' for each unit, this aims to be cross-curricular and provides pupils with the opportunity to showcase new learning, knowledge and skills.



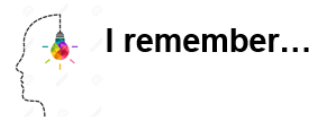
**KWL – Pre & Post Assessments:**

Formative assessment is the driving force behind our curriculum planning and sequencing at St Uny CE Academy. At the start of a new unit / topic, teachers carry out a pre-assessment using a KWL grid to establish what learners already know about a topic and to establish child-initiated lines of enquiry. This is an important part of the planning process and facilitates assessment across the curriculum so that children learn more, understand more and remember more. At the end of a unit, pupils are challenged to revisit their initial assessment and demonstrate their newly acquired subject knowledge and skills.



**Revisiting Prior Learning:**

At the start of each lesson across the curriculum, pupils are challenged to recap prior learning (independently or collaboratively) so that they understand how the next part of the sequence links to what they have already learnt.



**Self-Reflection:**

During lessons, pupils are challenged to consider their own thoughts, beliefs and viewpoints. This supports learners in developing the school's 'Empathy & Listening' learning power and nurtures learners' spiritual development.



**Homework:**

At St Uny CE Academy we believe homework should inspire and motivate pupils to learn more about their topics and engage in cross-curricular activities. 'Chilli Challenge Homework' plans are communicated with pupils and parents at the start of a new topic and these provide pupils with a range of cross-curricular and creative challenges designed to enhance and deepen their class-based learning further. Reading for pleasure is also an integral part of our approach to homework. We use 'Reading Karate' to set an expectation for the amount of daily reading expected at home and we provide VIPERS question stems to support parents / carers in developing reading skills at home.

