

“Supporting SEMH and well-being at St Cuthbert’s, North Shields”

Intent	<p>At St Cuthbert’s we have a clear vision and ethos for all learners. We have a culture of high aspirations and a very creative, flexible, holistic curriculum.</p> <p>Everything we do is planned with the core belief that our purpose is to make a positive difference to our children’s lives - be that academic, social, emotional or spiritual. At St. Cuthbert’s we believe that outstanding academic standards are achieved when a child is fully ready, engaged, prepared, excited to learn, healthy and happy. When all these elements are in place, we are truly addressing the needs of our children. We involve families in all learning at St. Cuthbert’s. Our families are the primary teachers of all our children and we involve them in all areas of learning so that we can support each other and nurture a learning community. Families want their children to be healthy and well; physically, emotionally and mentally. Our families know that when their children are well and engaged in their learning, they make excellent progress.</p>
Implementation	<p>The Code of Practice 2015 states that, for children with SEN, “special educational provision is to be made that is additional to or different from that made generally for other children or young people of the same age”.</p> <p>Our whole curriculum is adapted and has developed along with our learning environments and opportunities to nurture, stretch and develop talents. A creative and flexible curriculum with extra-curricular activities, we hope will create the balance needed to challenge and provide continuous opportunity for success - vital for providing the confidence to try new things. Skill development is key within this curriculum as well as a base of solid knowledge to work from.</p> <p>What we plan and deliver is constantly evolving as the needs of our children change and as our research leads us different resources and ideas. We believe that developing independent thinking, learning, questioning, awe and wonder in our children helps them understand how to deal with an ever-changing society and how to contribute positively to that society. Our children know who they are and they know to how to care for themselves, those people around them and anyone who needs support and help. They have confidence to articulate their thinking and to ask questions. We aim to make our classrooms inclusive (QFT, adaptations (time, resources, organisation, positive and resilient), wide curriculum which is skills based, resources adapted, staff and time planned and utilised.</p> <p>We have a culture where we work closely with families – our St Cuthbert’s community is very strong. Our staff are a close team. Such relationships are so important in being able to deliver our vision. We work closely with support staff who are nurturing and have great knowledge of our children. It’s relationships which provide the channel for many different types of learning to occur. They provide the feelings</p>

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	of safety, success, esteem, belonging, confidence and understanding that children with SEMH needs require.
Impact	We hope to develop skills, knowledge and understanding by using a wide range of styles and approaches. We hope that all learners are prepared for the next stage in their lives and that they achieve their best, and are confident, compassionate individuals as the gospel values underpin everything we do here. We understand the role our whole school plays in our wider community and we have many local connections through lots of our work such as through Mini Vinnies and on a wider scale through work we have done as a Rights Respecting School and through initiatives such as Compassion Matters.
SEMH	The well-being of our children and families underpins all we do here. We understand the importance of a “readiness” to learn. We want children to recognise this also. We appreciate that sometimes, we need a different way of thinking, sometimes to meet the needs of individuals. Our policies often focus on meeting the needs of all students and creating an environment where adaptations are not only for individuals with SEN. We teach about Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs and our children develop a rich vocabulary to express their feelings and emotions. Some of our staff are Thrive trained and we use this approach across school, not as an intervention. Relationships are at the centre of everything we do - we know our children and families well and value our belief that “you can’t know what to expect if you don’t know a child”.
The North Tyneside Inclusion Strategy fits with our school objectives.	<p>‘The North Tyneside Plan’ sets out the strategic objectives for North Tyneside. It focuses on three policy priorities, which are: Our People, Our Places and Our Economy. The Children and Young People’s Plan operates within the ‘Our North Tyneside Plan’ and sets out the partnership’s strategic intent, vision and priorities to improve outcomes in the five areas that children, young people and their families tell us matter most to them: The 5 Outcomes deliver on the Children and Young People’s vision: “Making North Tyneside an even greater place for children and young people to thrive; where all, including those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged or disabled, are ready for school, ready for work and life, cared for and supported.” These are inherent in the priorities addressed in North Tyneside’s ‘SEND Inclusion Strategy’ and the proposed ‘Ambition for Education’.</p> <p>The Children and Young People’s Plan sets out the partnership’s strategic intent, vision and priorities to improve outcomes in the five areas that children, young people and their families tell us matter most to them: The 5 Outcomes deliver on the Children and Young People’s vision: “Making North Tyneside an even greater place for children and young people to thrive; where all, including those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged or disabled, are ready for school, ready for work and life, cared for and supported.” These are inherent in the priorities</p>

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	addressed in North Tyneside’s ‘SEND Inclusion Strategy’ and the proposed ‘Ambition for Education’.
Well – being SDP objectives fit with North Tyneside Inclusion policy...	<p>Making an Impact: to provide our children, families and staff with a range of opportunities to make a positive difference to the lives of people in need through a shared justice. We provide our children with a diverse and rounded curriculum, environment and experiences and we believe that, as a Catholic school, it is our mission to make the most of the gifts and talents God has given each one of us. This includes helping others in their time of need which we do through our many fundraising activities, our Mini Vinnies, Mini Mini Vinnies and school council community work and our links with schools around the world. We will continue to make a positive impact on society this year with a focus on making a difference as a UN Rights Respecting School, as part of Tyne & Wear Citizens, working alongside Children in Crossfire and Compassion Matters and supporting national charities such as Children in Need, the Children’s Cancer Run, and Clothe and Feed etc. We will relaunch our intergenerational projects will allow our youngest children to develop socially, emotionally and it is our mission to develop their gifts and talents. Our children will know the positive impact they can have on the lives of others regardless of need or where they live. Our children and families are and will continue to be aware of their responsibilities as global citizens and recognise and understand how they help others and in turn are helped by others.</p> <p>Compassion Matters is an educational outreach project that shares and develops learning resources with schools and education charities to enable the teaching of values and secular ethics. Our resources equip children to think critically about ethical issues leading to a positive impact on the children’s social-emotional learning, mental well-being and academic attainment. We will work towards the Children in Crossfire Compassionate Award. We will continue to work with Children and Crossfire and work towards being the first primary school to achieve the Compassionate School Award. We will work closely with Children in Crossfire to live out their mission which is to work with others to tackle the injustices of poverty affecting children. Their core values link closely to our Mini Vinnies which are; compassion, accountability, partnership and equality. The change we hope to see being part of the programme is children who are socially, cognitively and physically developed and will excel through their education and life. Our children will also be engaged in local and global issues and will take action for a more just world. We will work together to care for our common home and therefore our Fratelli Tutti. Through Compassion Matters we will:</p> <p>Be part of a broader effort to see positive values at the heart of individuals, schools, commerce, politics and wider society through enabling children to understand compassion and its related values from an early age.</p>

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	<p>High-quality learning materials that are available to all regardless of means. Help children develop social-emotional learning skills through engaging with ethics and values in an academic and action-based format. Contributing to the improvements to children's mental health and wellbeing. Support children to develop tangible and transferable academic skills that enhance their learning in and out of the classroom</p>
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