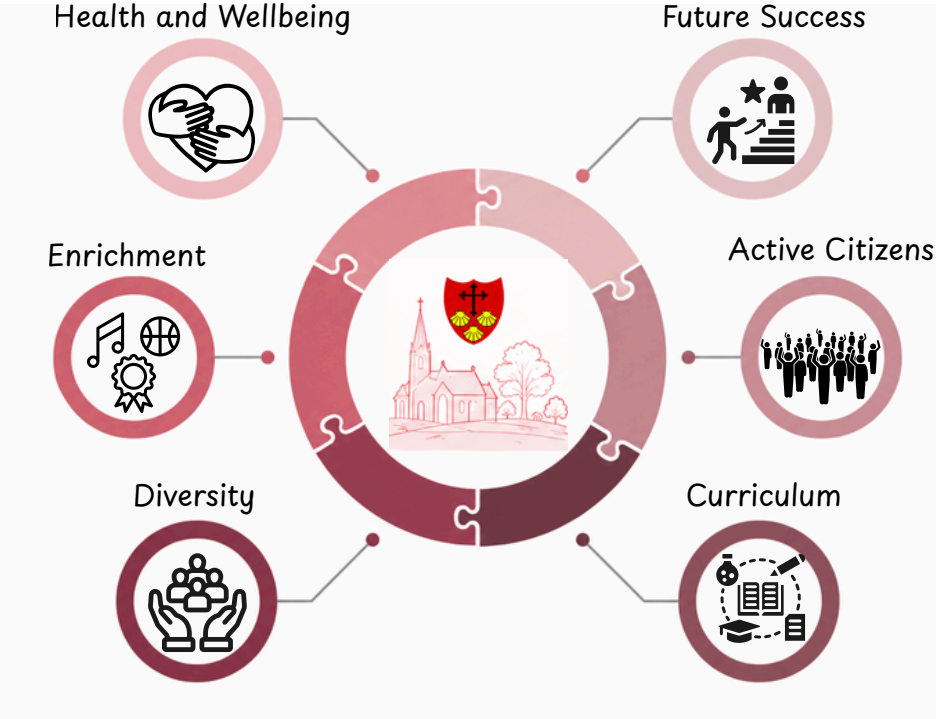
St James' Journey

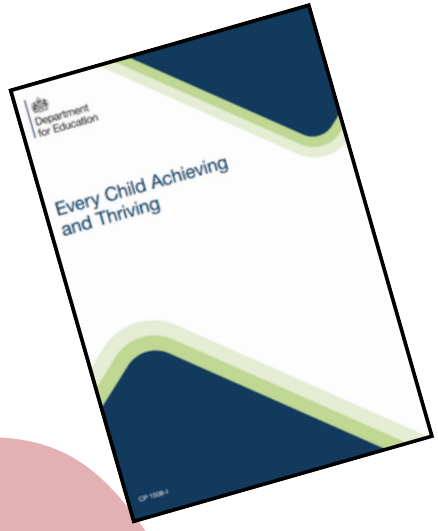


Personal Development and Wellbeing Strategy
St James' CE Primary School
2026/27

'St James' Journey' is our Personal Development and Wellbeing strategy that is a coherently planned, highly inclusive programme that empowers every child—regardless of their starting point, background, SEND, or socio-economic context—to overcome challenges, discover their unique talents, and thrive as confident, active citizens. This approach is rooted in our Christian Vision "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

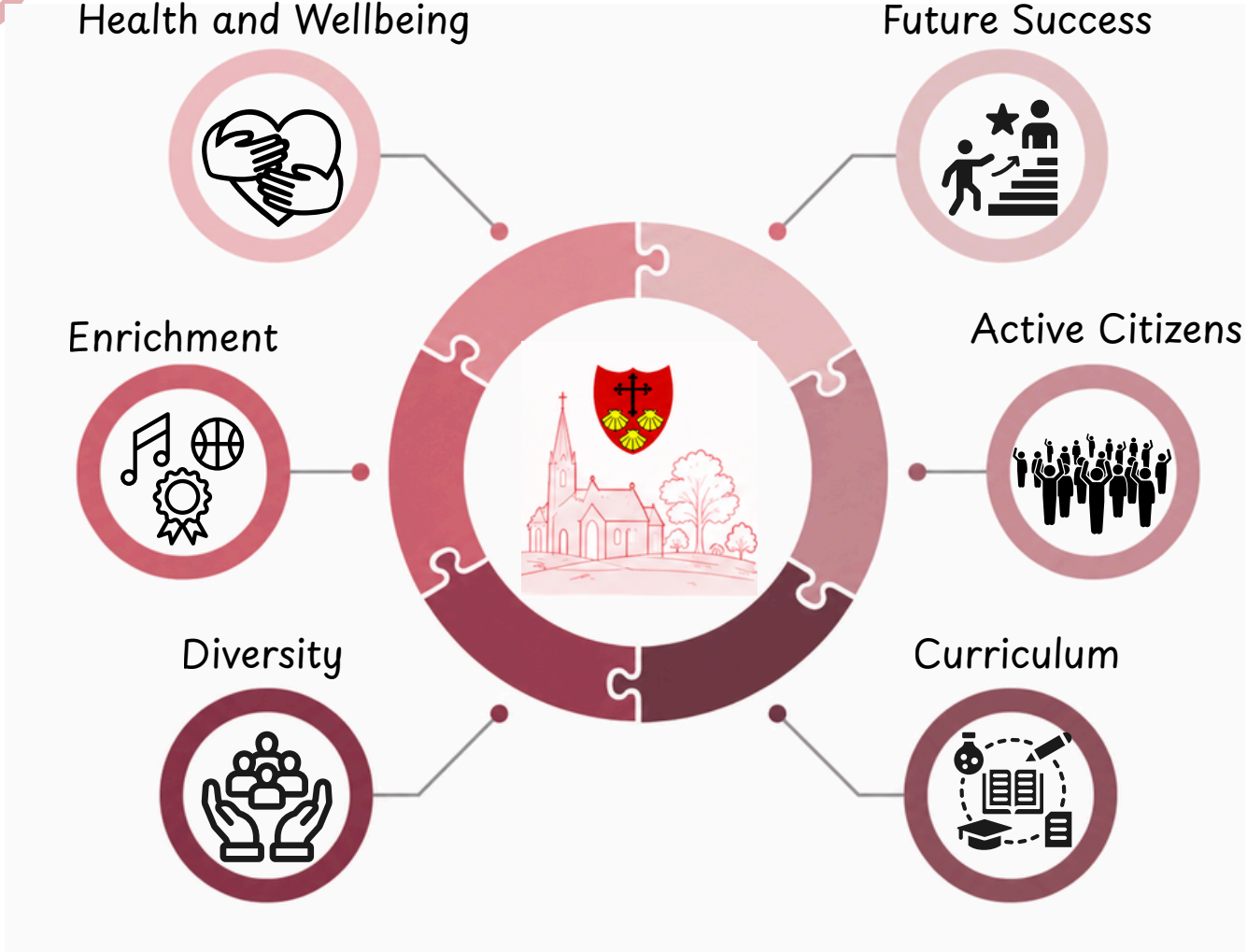
St James' Journey is reflective of our context and our own monitoring and evaluation. This bespoke approach is refined and responds to the needs of all children and is aligned with our other whole school priorities.

Our **strategy encompasses 6 aspects** that align with the Core Enrichment Entitlement and the Enrichment Benchmarks from the DfE. St James' BELONG curriculum is also woven into the strategy to ensure we equip children with knowledge and enthusiasm to develop their understanding of the world.









Each element of our 'St James' Journey' supports us to develop children who celebrate equality, show vital life skills, are confident and resilient and strive to be their best. Through our teaching of Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural across curriculum subjects and day to day school life, we aim for our children have a sense of fascination and creativity, moral understanding, and appreciation of diverse cultural heritage. We also want children to have have a strong sense of social responsibility and global awareness.

SAINT JAMES'
Church of England School

Our School Community



At Saint James', we are proud to serve our local community. This infographic provides a snapshot of our school, our pupils and the area we serve.

OUR PUPILS – WHO WE ARE

53% Expanded FSM
National: 26.5%
Wigan: 28%

39% SEND
National: 19.5%
Wigan: 19.6%

26% EAL (English as an Additional Language)
National: 23%
Wigan: 9.6%

40% Targeted FSM
National: 26.5%

18.7% Children in absolute poverty

156 FAMILIES IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

OUR LOCAL AREA

Worsley Mesnes is one of the most deprived areas in Wigan and is ranked within the top 2% most deprived neighbourhoods in England.



INCOME & EMPLOYMENT
High levels of out-of-work benefit claims and low household income.

HEALTH & DISABILITY
Below-average life expectancy and higher rates of chronic illness and mental health conditions.

EDUCATION, SKILLS & TRAINING
Lower proportions of degree-educated residents compared to the national average.

These factors can affect life chances and outcomes for our children and families, and we are committed to making a positive difference every day.

TOP 2% most deprived neighbourhoods in England

CRIME RATE **93.1** per 1,000 residents
11% above the national average of 83.5

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME **£38,000** (approx.)

FAMILY BREAKDOWN

1 child	101 families
2 children	41 families
3 children	11 families
4 children	3 families

PUPIL MOBILITY

2024/25

In-year transfer starters	In-year transfer leavers
18	11

2025/26

In-year transfer starters	In-year transfer leavers
13	12

OUR SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

- **39** children with EHCPs (17%)
- **82%** on the IDACI
- **14** different languages spoken
- **18%** mobility
- **3** specialist bases
- **1** support base

BELONG

For with God nothing shall be impossible (Luke 1:37)



Health and Wellbeing

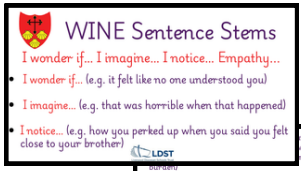
Belonging

Belonging is a crucial part of our approach to life at St James' CE Primary School. We aim for all members of our community to feel they are welcome, recognised and celebrated; our school is a safe place where each individual can flourish.

Our 'Reading Spine' means every child can see themselves in the texts around school.









As a Trauma Informed school, we use a relational approach to all interactions. Promoting empathy, understanding and regulations through PACE. All staff are training in this and are emotionally available adults for all our children.

Safe spaces and enabling environments around our school ensure that everyone has a place to regulate if needed. All spaces follow a therapeutic approach to offer a calm









Mental health

Through our PSHE curriculum we teach children about how to have positive mental health, learning about our emotions, managing stress and building resilience.

Special events days and weeks promote mental health for everyone









In our PSHE curriculum we follow My Happy Minds Plus which features the following areas:

myHappymind myHappybody myHappyrelationships myHappyworld

We supplement this with Christoper Winter Project units for RSE to support children's learning about helathy relationships as well as emotional, social, and physical aspects of growing up.

Health and Wellbeing

My Happy Mind

We are proud to be a My Happy Mind School. My Happy Mind provides a consistent, preventative whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing, developing pupils' emotional literacy, self-regulation, resilience, confidence and positive relationships. Alongside our full St James' Journey offer, we feel My Happy Mind helps pupils develop the confidence, relationships and sense of belonging needed to participate fully in school life and benefit from wider opportunities and experiences.

My Happy Mind covers a range of topics so that children learning how their brain works, celebrate who they are and their uniqueness, understanding about the importance of gratitude, learning about positive relationships and also resilience to achieve their goals. Each week the lessons are taught by class teachers on a Monday morning to start children off in a positive mindset of the week ahead.

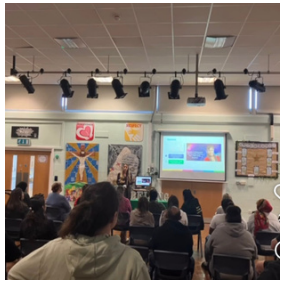


Mental health workshops

During the year, we hold mental health workshops for children and families from Year 1 to Year 6.

For children, the sessions cover topics such as anxiety, anger management and how to look after your own mental health. For Y6 there is also an additional session on transition.





For families, the offer is more bespoke and can respond to individual needs we sessions offered 1:1. There are also workshop style sessions run on different themes for parents/carers to engage in/



Enrichment

Residentials

Residentials has always been a part of the curriculum offer at St James', this year we are expanding these experiences as we feel they are a vital part of children's learning, both educationally and socially and for each residential we will be maximising the range of experiences that the children encounter. Our educational residentials linked to our BELONG curriculum are for the children in each class from Years 3 - 6. These are completed on a two-year cycle for Years 3 to 6. We have also added an additional 1 day experience to London focusing on British values and the history of London.



Year 2025/26	Residential	Year 2026/27	Residential
Year 3/Year 4	Cardiff, Wales	Year 3 /Year 4	York, Yorkshire, England
	Links in Geography, History, PSHE, Science, S and L		Links in History, Geography, English, PE, PSHE
Year 5 /Year 6	Edinburgh, Scotland	Year 5 /Year 6	Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire
	Links in History, Geography, Science, Art, PE, PSHE		Links in History, Geography, English, PE, PSHE
Year 4, 5, 6	Day visit to London Linked to History, Geography, PSHE, British Values		

Enrichment days and weeks

Across the course of the academic year, children take part in a range of enrichment days and weeks. These span our whole curriculum and are regularly updated to ensure that we are celebrating specific events, peoples and cultures to reflect both our school community and the world around us.

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
2025/26	Black History Month ADHD Awareness Month Show Racism the Red Card World Food Day and Culture Day **Safeguarding focus** *Handwashing and hygiene*	Firework Safety Assembly Anti-Bullying Week World Diabetes Day World Toilet Day Sugar Awareness and dental hygiene Universal Children's Day International Day of Disabilities Human Rights Day Christmas Jumper Day **Safeguarding focus** *Road safety and firework safety*	National Obesity Week and healthy eating Birdwatching Month LGBT History Month Children's Mental Health Week Safer Internet Day Lunar New Year Random Acts of Kindness Day **Safeguarding focus** *Internet safety, including information for parents*	International Women's Day Neurodiversity Week Nutrition and Hydration Week International Day of Happiness International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination World Water Day **Safeguarding focus** *Water safety*	World Autism Awareness Day Earth Day St George's Day Mental Health Awareness Week International Day of Families School Careers Week **Safeguarding focus** *Sun safety and using sun lotion correctly* **Safeguarding focus** *Road safety for scooting and cycling*	Pride Month World Environment Day My Money Week Healthy Eating Week School Diversity Week A diverse story each day PSHE lesson on celebrating difference Expect Respect lesson Rainbow Day Plastic Free July **Safeguarding focus** *Internet safety and summer safety*









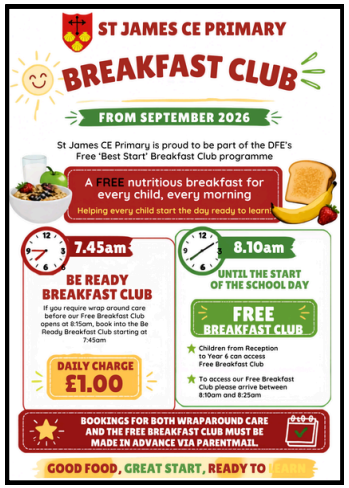


Enrichment

Curriculum Enrichment

Breakfast and After School Club

Our Extra-Curricular offer runs from 7.45 till 4.30pm. We have our own Breakfast Club called the 'Be Ready Club' and we are also proud to be part of the DfEs new free breakfast club initiative. We keep our costs low to ensure everyone can attend and fund some of our more vulnerable families.



We also run a range of after-school clubs, we listen to pupil voice and try to plan in activites that children are interested in. Each half term we analyse the attendance and target specific children to engage them in the various clubs.





As part of our BELONG curriculum, we have planned out visits, visitors and enrichments across the year. These enhancements bring learning life and ensure that children benefit from a range of experiences that will broaden their horizons and possiblities on offer to them. This also supports children to find new interests and talents.

SAINT JAMES' Church of England School	B	E	L	O	N	G
	Believe in our Christian values	Equality – celebrating our diverse community	Life Skills	Opportunities beyond the classroom	Nurture- supporting physical and mental health	Greatness in all that we do
Nursery	Friendship Teddy Bear's Picnic	Diwali festival	Growing Vegetables	Chicks - Hatching eggs	Autumn Walk – We're going on a bear hunt.	Easter Bonnet Parade
Reception	Friendship Teddy Bear's Picnic	Walk to Church – Baptism.	Visit from dentist – teeth brushing	Airport Visit	Caterpillar to butterfly garden	Imagine that – Wigan
Year 1	Trust Someone Special Tea party	Local Walk – Shop Visit Autumn 1 – link to Geog	Train Journey	Visit from bug / exotic animals	Formby Beach	Inspiring visitors.
Year 2	Thankfulness Harvest service in Church	Visit to a Mosque Summer 2 – Link to RE Topic	Bury Fire Station - Fire safety	Stone age dress-up day (Forest school) Spring 2 link to History	Walk to Alexandra Park	Creating Art for an Art Gallery
Year 3	Respect Remembrance service in school	Easter cards and visit to local care home	Emergency Service Visitors	Residential York	Lancashire Farm Spring 2 – link to Agriculture topic	Reading Buddies with Reception Class
Year 4	Forgiveness Easter service in Church	Local litter pick	Managing money		St Helens Transport Museum	Visit to Brick Stadium Wigan Athletic
Year 5	Hope Christmas service in Church	Visit to a Synagogue Spring 1 – Link to RE Topic	Scotsman's flash – Water safety	Residential Strafford	Visit Local High School	Plan and organise Enterprise / Fundraising activity
Year 6	Courage Leavers service in Church	Makaton - Communication Lesson	Bike ability		University Trip / Edge Hill	Leavers' performance

Diversity

Celebrating diversity and equality are central to our BELONG curriculum aims, with strong emphasis on inclusivity and addressing inequality. This is woven throughout different subjects, helping pupils develop a broad understanding of diverse perspectives and the world around them, while highlighting influential figures from a variety backgrounds.
We regularly reflect on these influential figures and try to ensure that within our curriculum we are providing the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

BELONG Worship

BELONG Worship takes place weekly giving leaders a chance to ensure children meet over diverse, influential figures outside of the curriculum. These sessions are planned and responsive to current world and local events.

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
2025/26	**Mahatma Gandhi** *(Peace Day)* **Katherine Johnson** *(Black History Month and mathematics)* **Duke Ellington** *(Black History Month and music)* **Mae Jemison** *(mathematics and Black History Month)*	**Noel Chavasse** *(Remembrance)* **Malala Yousafzai** *(courage, equality and education)* **Lenny Henry** *(diversity and representation)* **Olaudah Equiano** *(International Day for the Abolition of Slavery)* **Oskar Schindler** *(courage and standing up for others)*	**Derek and Jim Redmond** *(resilience and family support)* **Steve Jobs** *(innovation and perseverance)* **Martin Luther King Jr.** *(equality and Martin Luther King Day)* **Corrie ten Boom** *(Holocaust Memorial Day)* **Katie Piper** *(resilience and self-belief)* **Tim Berners-Lee** *(Safer Internet Day and technology)*	**Vashti Harrison** *(World Book Day)* **Ruth Bader Ginsburg** *(International Women's Day and equality)* **Simone Biles** *(Neurodiversity Celebration Week)* **Ed Sheeran** *(World Water Day and Drop4Drop)* **Safia Middleton-Patel** *(Autism Awareness Week)*	**David Attenborough** *(Earth Day and care for creation)* **William Shakespeare** *(English and literature)* **Pyotr Tchaikovsky** *(National Music Week)* **Joe Wicks** *(physical and mental wellbeing)* **Michael Jordan** *(resilience and aspiration)*	**Lizzie Daly** *(World Oceans Week)* **Pele** *(International Day of Play and the World Cup)* **Yusra Mardini** *(World Refugee Week)* **Venus and Serena Williams** *(Wimbledon)* **Stephen Wiltshire** *(BELONG Week and celebrating difference)* **Lucy Bronze** *(women's football and aspiration)* **Nelson Mandela** *(Mandela Day, justice and equality)*

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We have an Equality Code that everyone at school follows to ensure we recognise and celebrate the protected charactersitics. We have reading materials for specific areas of this as well to reinforce the message about inclusion. We also celebrate this through our BELONG curriculum and BELONG week.



Through our many events weeks and days we celebrate the protected characteristics and learn about challenges certain individuals face such as children who are neuro-diverse.





Future Success

Careers Week



Each year we hold our own careers week. We connect children to the wider world and begin to recognise the many possibilities available to them. It raises aspirations, challenges stereotypes and introduces pupils to a broad range of jobs, workplaces and positive role models. Through this approach we also ensure there equity to all pupils.







Pupil Leadership Teams (PLT)

At St James' we want children to help make decisions about their school, giving them a meaningfull voice and showing them they can make a positive difference. All children in KS2 are part of a Pupil Leadership Team, following their interests.

By taking part in leadership teams children develop confidence, independence and communication skills all of which will help with children's future success.

SAINT JAMES'
Church of England School

PLT

Pupil Leadership Team

Active Citizens

Courageous Advocacy



We teach children about social justice and courageous advocacy, standing up and speaking out for justice, fairness, and positive change, even when it is difficult, risky, or unpopular.



The children decide how we will support various events and charities...for New Hope LDST day we took part in 2 events





Across the course of the year we support different national events and learn about the world around us through Picture News.





School Dog Heidi

Heidi is our trained school dog certified through Dogs Helping Kids who supports students by providing therapy, helping with reading, and teaching animal care. Spending time in the leadership office and with groups or individuals, she helps boost children's self-esteem, social skills, focus, and academic achievement, while teaching them respect and responsibility toward animals.

Curriculum

Life Skills

Building life skills is on of the key drivers of our BELONG curriculum. Through our PSHE curriculum we prepare children to manage emotions and look after their own mental health. We supplement our curriculum with additional opportunities for different year groups



Learning about ways to keep themselves safe e.g. raod safety

Learning vital skills such as first aid and stopping emergency bleeds







Children in our Nurture Provision also learn life skills in a unit called My Independence.

British Values

Children learn about Biritsh Values in various ways at St James'. Within our BELONG curriculum, through the units we cover and as part of our weekly BELONG worship.

British values are also explored through our visits outside of school and the visitors we invite in. They also link to our school Christian Values that we celebrate half termly.



Democracy	Trust and Justice Rule of Law	Tolerance Peace and Mutual Respect	Individual Liberty	Serving Our Community
• PSHE and RSE learning, supported by year-group knowledge organisers and a calendar of events • Purposeful talk, collaborative discussion and respectful debate through English and reading • Writing for different purposes and audiences, helping pupils express ideas clearly • Geography encourages pupils to ask questions, think critically and interpret information • Evaluating and discussing their own work and the work of others in art • Shared musical performance, singing and composition across all year groups	• Rules for Living explored through the RE curriculum • Online safety, digital literacy and responsible use of technology through computing • Safeguarding themes mapped through the PSHE curriculum • Rules, teamwork, fair participation and sportsmanship through PE • Scientific enquiry develops careful observation, evidence gathering and reasoned conclusions • Clear classroom routines and carefully sequenced learning build responsibility and positive learning habits	• A BELONG curriculum that celebrates equality and the richness of St James' diverse community • RE explores Christianity alongside Judaism, Islam, sacred texts, creation stories and prayer • Geography studies diverse places, people and communities from the local area to the wider world • Art introduces diverse artists, cultures, styles and traditions • Music explores a broad range of musical styles, cultures, traditions and composers • High-quality literature and discussion develop vocabulary, empathy and understanding	• BELONG helps pupils believe in themselves, grow in confidence and discover new passions • Reading for pleasure includes opportunities to choose, recommend, discuss and celebrate books • English develops independent writers who communicate for a range of purposes and audiences • Art promotes creativity, self-expression, experimentation and thoughtful creative risk-taking • Computing develops creative problem-solving and confident, purposeful use of technology • PE, music and wider opportunities allow pupils to develop and demonstrate individual talents	• The curriculum encourages every child to make a positive difference in the world • BELONG teaches pupils to nurture themselves and one another within a caring community • Geography and fieldwork develop responsibility for the local area and wider world • Longstanding partnership with Wigan Warriors enriches PE and supports inclusive participation • Wigan West competitions and inter-school football and netball build local connections • Collective worship, performance and shared school experiences strengthen belonging and contribution