



## Picture News Curriculum Statement

### Why is Picture News important?

At St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery, we believe that children should have access to current affairs and the opportunity to learn about and from the world we live in. Picture News lessons encourage children to ask questions, to discover more about our world and allow opportunities for children to challenge concepts in a respectful way. In doing so, children develop their understanding of British values through making meaningful and relevant links and encouraging an awareness of others and tolerance of different views and opinions. Through engaging discussion and debate, we develop confidence, independence and resilience and develop the speaking and listening skills of our children. Picture News supports children in becoming active citizens who can evoke change and have a positive impact on the world we live in and prepares them for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### What is Picture News like at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery?

At St. George's Central, children from EYFS to year 6 engage in weekly Picture News sessions in their class. Each session focuses on a current affairs event or issue from the previous week and is linked to one of the British values. Children are provided with some background information on the issue and are then provided with the opportunity to question, discuss and debate. Time is given to develop skills to allow children to disagree in a respectful way, recognising that the opinions of others may differ from their own. Sentence starters are provided to develop children's speech and language skills. In turn, this enables children to articulate their points more effectively and encourages children to support their arguments with evidence: a skill that is transferable across the curriculum.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children are provided with the same news story and activities that link to the 7 areas of learning. Resources are used within the provision to support the discussions that have taken place. This gives children an opportunity to extend their learning in different areas.

Each week, a different class contributes to the interactive Picture News display board, adding their thoughts and opinions to the overarching question of the week. This encourages children to share ideas and opinions with the world and allows opportunities to impact issues and evoke change.

The Picture News at Home resource is emailed to parents on a weekly basis. This allows children to prepare for the lesson ahead. Children may choose to research the area of discussion by themselves or with a parent, promoting discussion and a positive attitude to their learning. Picture News is also a central part of the intergenerational work that takes place as part of the community based 'All Being Well' project.

Picture News is evidenced through the interactive display in school, posts on social media, the Picture News British Values coverage document and a floor book.

### Opportunities to celebrate Picture News at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery

Picture News shared with the wider community and visitors to school, Picture News competitions, Online discussion board on Picture News website, Picture News club.

***'Never settle for less than your best'***

*Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' John 8:12*