



St. Michael's N.S. Corcaghan

Social Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) Plan

In our school, SESE provides opportunities for the child to explore and investigate and develop an understanding of the natural, human, scientific, historical, social and cultural environment in which they live. This plan forms the basis of individual teacher's long and short term planning. We very much value the role that SESE plays in the wholesome development of children as learners and we look to integrate these subjects into the curriculum where possible.

Vision: SESE fosters children's respect for the past, responsibility for our living world, and inspires them for the scientific future.

Aims: To endorse the aims of the SESE curriculum.

1. Curriculum Planning

Strands and Strand Units: Outlined below are the strands in the SESE Curriculum and the skills that we hope to develop. Each strand is subdivided into Strand Units which focus on particular concepts. These skills are set out in teacher's individual planning.

<p>Geography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Environments • Natural Environments • Environmental Awareness and Care 	<p>History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myself and my Family • Story • Early People and Ancient Societies • Life, society, work and culture in the past • Eras of change and conflict • Politics, conflict and society • Continuity and change over time 	<p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living things • Energy and Forces • Materials • Environmental awareness and care
<p>Skills Development</p>		
<p>Geography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sense of place and space • Maps, globes and graphical skills <p>Geographical Investigation Skills</p>	<p>History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time and Chronology • Change and Continuity • Cause and Effect • Using Evidence • Synthesis and 	<p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Scientifically • Designing and Making

	communication • Empathy	
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2. Approaches and Methodologies

Teachers can choose from the following:

- Whole class work
- Small group work
- Individual work on chosen topics or projects
- Investigative approach
- Closed activities
- Open investigations
- Teacher-directed approach
- Computer research
- Field trips
- Science experiments
- Role of drama/ music
- Exemplars.

3. Linkage and Integration

We will explore possibilities to integrate the SESE subjects at all levels. Teachers create their own integrated topics by referring to the Teacher Guidelines in Geography, History and Science.

4. Multi-Grade Teaching

Our school has all multi-grade classes. We follow a two-year cycle so that all curriculum areas are covered within the two years according to the plan of the relevant teachers.

5. Assessment and Record Keeping

The following may be used:

- teacher observation
- teacher-designed tasks and tests
- concept-mapping
- work samples, portfolios and projects in hardbacks
- curriculum profiles.

6. Differentiation

Teachers will differentiate within their class for all children to ensure that objectives are attainable for every child. We believe in equality of participation and access.

7. Organisational Planning

Timetable:

Our teachers work in keeping with the recommendations in the Primary School Curriculum (page 70) for SESE, i.e. a minimum of two and a quarter hours in Infant years, with three hours for classes 1st – 6th per week. On occasion, time will be blocked as appropriate.

8. Resources used within Classrooms

No text books are used in the delivery of the SESE programme at St. Michael's N.S. We believe in using hands on resources and artefacts, whenever possible and available. We encourage children to learn by discovery and we also aim to use a range of methodologies in this pursuit. In the middle and senior classes,

each child uses a science hardback to record for each SESE subject. Teachers are encouraged to plan thematically and link/ integrate the curriculum, where appropriate.

9. ICT Resources used within classrooms

- iPads
- Laptops

10. Individual Teachers' Planning and Reporting

Teachers write long term plans for each SESE subject. We also produce a fortnightly plan for each subject, which combine to form a Cuntas Míosúil.

11. Community Links/People

Local people with expertise in SESE topics include:

Mrs. Timoney-Conaty

12. Local Places of SESE Interest

- Rossmore Park
- St. Michael's Church & graveyard
- Old St. Michael's NS
- Community Centre
- Monaghan Town

13. Implementation

Each teacher has responsibility for implementing this school plan within their classroom. The principal is responsible for ensuring all teachers are aware of the plan and use it within their classrooms.

Review Date: March 2019

Ratification: March 2017