St. John Bosco Junior Boys’ school

SESE overview

**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.

**Vision**

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

**Aims**

We endorse the aims of the SESE curriculum. (See the Science, History and Geography policies)

**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.

**Geography**

* Human Environments
* Natural Environments
* Environmental Awareness and Care

**History**

* Myself and my Family
* Story
* Change and continuity (First class)

**Science**

* Living things
* Energy and Forces
* Materials
* Environmental awareness and care

**Skills Development**

**Geography**

* A sense of place and space
* Maps, globes and graphical skills
* Geographical Investigation Skills

**History**

* Time and Chronology
* Using evidence
* Communication (Junior and Senior Infants)
* Change and Continuity (First Class)
* Cause and Effect
* Synthesis and communication
* Empathy

**Science**

* Working Scientifically
* Designing and Making

**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
* Exemplars.

**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.

**Assessment and Record Keeping**

The following may be used:

* Teacher observation
* Teacher-designed tasks and tests
* Concept-mapping
* Work samples

Please see individual policies for further detail of assessment and record keeping.

**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.

**Organisational Planning**

**Timetable**

Our teachers work in keeping with the recommendations in the Primary School Curriculum for SESE, i.e. a minimum of two and a quarter hours in Infant years, with three hours for First class per week. On occasion, time will be blocked as appropriate.

**Resources/ICT resources used within Classrooms include the following**

Junior Infants - What a Wonderful World J.I

 Earthlink J.I.

 Look Around J.I

 Window on the World J.I

Senior Infants- What a Wonderful World S.I.

 Window on the World S.I

 Look Around S.I

 Earthlink S.I

First class - Look Around 1 and (Posters)

 Window on the World- 1st

 Earthlink -1st

 What a Wonderful World-1st

The teachers also use a wide range of resources such as Science, History and Geography posters, kits, reference books CD’s, Dvd’s and websites for the Interactive whiteboard such as

* SESE Interactive game on all laptops within school
* www.cjfallons.ie
* www.scoilnet.ie
* www.google.ie (also Google images)
* [www.prometheanplanet.com](http://www.prometheanplanet.com)

Resources are shared between all the classes as required.

**Individual Teachers’ Planning and Reporting**

Teachers write long term plans for each SESE subject using the Curriculum guidelines. We also produce a fortnightly plan for each subject. The Cuntas Míosúil (monthly progress reports) are stored on the Naz central computer system.

**Community Links/People**

Local people with expertise in SESE topics will be invited into our school to share their experiences and knowledge with the pupils.

**Local Places of SESE Interest**

See the Science, History and Geography policies for more details

**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.

**Ratification and Review**

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management in November 2013 and will be reviewed every three years

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Chairperson BOM

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_