

# The Parish University



*'I loved reading about Parish University and I think that is a really fantastic project - the comments from your graduates really do speak for themselves. It is wonderful that children, who previously thought that going to university was not a path that was open to them, are imparted with such self-belief and determination to reach their potential. I want this to be a country which provides everyone with brilliant life chances, and I hope that more schools follow the inspirational example which you set.'*

*The Rt Hon Justine Greening, Secretary of State for Education.*

# Why?

- To raise the children's aspirations and their sense of achievement
- To increase the children's awareness of universities
- To develop life long key skills - linked to our Rainbow Promises.
- To give the children the opportunity to learn and experience new and interesting things
- To have fun!
- Only available for Y4/Y5/Y6

# What is it?

The Parish University course is made up of seven components running from February through to July. Each one is linked to a Rainbow Promise. To graduate, all seven components must be completed.

## Our Curriculum Promises:

Encourage **R**esilience and perseverance

Develop **A**rticulate learners

**I**nfluence aspirations

**N**urture curiosity

Instil **B**ritish and Christian Values

Provide **O**pportunities to build upon knowledge and skills

Promote **W**ellbeing and health



# What does Parish University look like?

Each element of our Parish University course is linked to our Rainbow Curriculum to ensure that our children are successful in life and learning, no matter what their starting points and barriers to learning may be. Just as the Rainbow symbolises hope from a Christian perspective, the Rainbow Curriculum is designed to offer our children hope for the future in terms of their achievements and aspirations and what better course for influencing aspirations than Parish University.



	<u>Experience</u>	<u>Details</u>
R	Sponsored Walk.	All about developing resilience and perseverance, our sponsored walk around Carr Mill Dam raises money to complete our course and is a fantastic family event for all involved.
A	Oracy Workshop.	Mr Molyneux will provide children with the tools to be an articulate learner and reason their views with increasing confidence in our Speaking and Listening masterclasses. This will centre around developing Philosophy for Children.
I	Edge Hill University Visit.	All children visit Edge Hill University during school time to experience university life and influence their aspirations for potential further study in the future.
N	Project Completion.	A focussed independent project completed at home to nurture curiosity and develop a love of learning. A range of topics will be provided and students will be able to choose the project most pertinent to their interests.

	<u>Experience</u>	<u>Details</u>
B	Town Hall Visit (All Parish University Students).	After a visit to St Helens town hall during school time on the same day, children will take part in a after school club with Mr Hardy to really understand the meaning of British and Christian Values.
O	Course to Complete.	<p>One course must be completed to focus in on an area of interest and provide an opportunity to build on knowledge and skills. Course selection will take place later in the academic year, so students can begin to think about what you would like to study.</p> <p><u>Courses available this year for 1st year students:</u> Science (Mr Atherton), Languages (Mrs Moore), Fine Art (Mrs D.Morris).</p> <p><u>Courses available for 2nd year students:</u> History (Miss Robey), Geography (Miss Wells).</p> <p><u>Courses available for 3rd year students:</u> Maths (Mr Campbell), Science (Miss Dodd).</p>
W	Forest School Event	A popular element of our course is the outdoor 'Forest School' session all about promoting 'Wellbeing and Health' with Miss Duggan and Miss Warbrick.

# The Courses



Students will need to attend one course after school. The children can choose from the following topics (this will only need to be finalised later in the year):

The children will also need to complete one project, which will have to be completed later in the year and can be any of a selection of topics including:

- Meteorologist
- Global Issues
- Navigator
- Astronomer
- Football Enthusiast
- Environmental Conservation
- Local Knowledge
- Writer
- Nature Lover
- Poetry Lover

## Key Information for Parents:

- Including trips, approximately 20 hours of accumulated time to complete the project.
- All dates are on the letter provided today with 7 afterschool courses and the independent project.
- Heavily subsidised by school - only cost is £30 sponsored walk money to pay for the organisation of the course.
- Builds on previous year with different types of graduates building up to Masters.
- All elements must be completed to graduate.
- Graduation is the Parish event of the year! This will take place on the **26th June 2025!**



# Completing the Course

## Graduation

If students successfully complete the degree, they will be invited (with family members) to an award ceremony. This will take place at a university. The children will get to wear a university 'cap and gown' to receive their graduation certificate.

