

St Joseph's Catholic primary school Walsall.

St Josephs is a one form entry school set in an urban environment in the West Midlands. Its outdoor space is in proportion for the size of the school.

The school has a small, grassed football pitch with additional green space to the side, a prayer garden, a developing raised bed garden/ nature area, a multi-use games area, 2 tarmacked playgrounds and an early years and foundation stage fenced off outdoor space.

The aim at St Joseph's, is that each child is taught an ambitious, broad, and balanced curriculum. They promote the personal and character development of all children through a wide and rich set of experiences.

As part of the Waterways, Wildlife and Wellbeing project the school identified a variety of actions it wished to develop and embed through learning outside the classroom into everyday practise across the school

The project has been headed up by the headteacher who has a passion for ensuring students experience a curriculum which is enriched through beyond the classroom opportunities.

Progress made during the project includes:

- Staff have received CPD to highlight the importance of LOtC opportunities upskill and develop their confidence
- Significant budget has been allocated and is spent on ensuring access for all pupils on LOtC experiences
- Long term and short-term curriculum plans now reflect where LOtC delivery is taking place
- The school website now reflects the opportunities that students have experienced as well as a list of schools visits and planned activities for every year group
- Subject leaders are involved in ensuring LOtC opportunities are delivered across the school in their area of responsibility
- Working with increasing number of external providers to provide activities both on and away from the school site
- Pupil voice is being used to measure the impact of these experiences and shape future developments
- hosted a 'using your school grounds' training course

St Josephs have found being part of the Waterways, Wildlife and Wellbeing project helpful in terms of the access to training and ideas which it has provided.

Hearing from other schools and ideas of things they are doing has inspired the headteacher to focus on developing and embedding LOtC across the school.

Mentoring meetings have provided an opportunity to discuss progress and to consider suggestions for next steps or suggestions for accessing opportunities, funding and simple solutions to barriers which they hadn't considered previously.

The school are now using the opportunity to apply for their CLOtC Mark in the next few months.