



Curriculum

ECM: Be healthy, Stay safe, Enjoy & achieve, Make a positive contribution, Achieve economic well-being

The curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning, personal growth and development. It includes not only the educational requirements of the National Curriculum and the Common Entrance syllabuses, but also the range of extra-curricular activities that the school organises in order to enrich the learning experience of the children. It also includes the 'hidden curriculum' - what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave. We aim to teach children how to grow into positive, responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others whilst developing knowledge and skills, so that they achieve their potential.

Values:

Our school curriculum is underpinned by the values that we hold dear at our school. The curriculum is the means by which the school achieves its objective of educating children in the knowledge, skills and understanding that they need in order to lead fulfilling lives.

We value the way in which all children are unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures.

We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth.

We value the importance of each person in our community. We organise our curriculum so that we promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community.

We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We aim to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school.

We value our environment, and we aim, through our curriculum, to teach respect for our world, and how we should care for it for future generations, as well as our own.

Aims and objectives

The aims of our school curriculum are:

- to enable all children to learn and develop their skills to the best of their ability;
- to promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that children enjoy coming to school, and acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning;
- to enable children to be creative and to develop their own thinking;
- to teach children about their developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time;
- to help children understand Britain's cultural heritage;
- to enable children to be positive citizens in society;
- to teach children to have an awareness of their own spiritual development, and to understand right from wrong;
- to help children understand the importance of truth and fairness, so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all;
- to enable children to have respect for themselves and high self-esteem, and to be able to live and work co-operatively with others.

Organisation and planning

We plan our curriculum in three phases. We agree a long-term plan for each subject. This indicates what topics are to be taught in each term, and to which groups of children. We review our long-term plans annually.

With our medium-term plans, we give clear guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies that we use when teaching each topic.

Our short-term plans are those that our teachers write on a weekly or daily basis. We use these to set out the learning objectives for each session, and to identify what resources and activities we are going to use in the lesson. The curriculum in our school is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend the school. If we think it necessary to adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of individual children, then we do so only after the parents of the child have been consulted.

The Foundation Stage

The curriculum that we teach in this area of the school meets the requirements set out in the revised National Curriculum at Foundation Stage. The Early Years Foundation Stage covers six areas of learning and is underpinned by four Early Learning Foundation Stage principles.

Our school fully supports the principle that young children learn much through play and by engaging in well-planned structured activities. Teaching in the Kindergarten classes builds on the experiences of the children in their pre-school learning.

We are well aware that all children need the support of parents and teachers to make good progress in school. We strive to build positive links with the parents of each child by keeping them informed about the way in which the children are being taught and how well each child is progressing.

Monitoring and review

The Head, Deputy Head and Nursery Manager monitor the long- and medium-term plans for all subjects.

Subject co-ordinators monitor their subject throughout the school. They examine long-term and medium-term planning, and are available to discuss appropriate teaching strategies with their colleagues. Subject co-ordinators also have responsibility for monitoring the way in which resources are stored and managed.