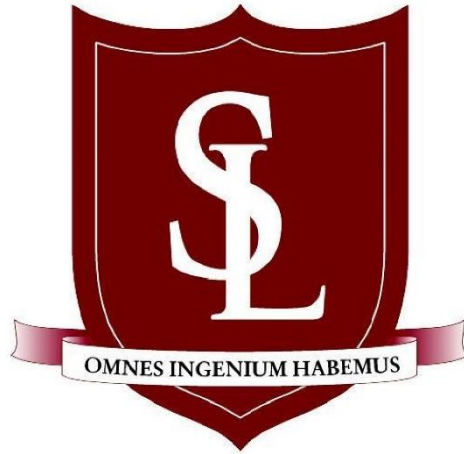

CURRICULUM POLICY



SOUTH LEE SCHOOL

PREPARED BY: CHARLOTTE BAKER
ROLE: DEPUTY HEAD
DATE LAST REVIEWED: OCTOBER 2018
DATE LAST SMT APPROVED:

Contents

Overview	2
Aims and objectives	3
The Early Years Foundation Stage.....	3
Pre Prep School	4
Prep School	5
Homework.....	5
Co-curricular activities	5

Overview

The curriculum is all the activities that we organise in order to promote learning and personal growth in our pupils. It aims to give pupils experience in the linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, social, physical, aesthetic and creative aspects of education and to prepare them for their senior schools. We aim to teach children how to grow into positive, responsible people who can work and co-operate with others whilst developing the knowledge and skills needed to realise their individual potential.

The curriculum is planned around the educational requirements of the National Curriculum and the Common Entrance syllabuses. As we are an independent school, we diverge from the National Curriculum where there is a sound rationale for so doing.

The subject matter is differentiated according to the ages and aptitudes of the pupils, including those with an EHC plan.

Our curriculum also includes the range of co-curricular activities that the school organises in order to enrich the learning experience of the children. The 'hidden curriculum', i.e. what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave, is another factor to be taken into consideration.

The academic curriculum is obligatory for pupils except when it is beneficial to an individual pupil to be excused one or more subjects. Participation in after school clubs is encouraged, but not compulsory.

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.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the curriculum are to develop the following characteristics of South Lee Learners who:

- Are creative leaders who develop solutions and opportunities
- Are committed to making progress and persevere until they do so.
- Have the confidence and sense of adventure to make and value mistakes and to learn from them
- Are driven to achieve their aspirations with effort and the right strategies
- Identify next steps and set aspirational goals
- Value, support and contribute to the school and wider communities
- Have a strong moral compass and can all learn from one another
- Make informed decisions to maintain healthy lifestyles and relationships
- Are inquisitive and interested in the wider world.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

South Lee Early Years Department follows the mandatory framework, effective from April 2017, for all Early Years providers. The implementation of the EYFS curriculum gives children the knowledge and skills to prepare them for their journey through school.

The framework states that learning and development requirements comprise seven areas. These shape the educational programmes in Early Years settings. Whilst all of the areas are interconnected, they are broken down into **three prime areas** and **four specific areas**.

The **three prime areas**, which are vital in encouraging children to be curious and enthusiastic, are:

Communication and Language

Listening and attention
Understanding
Speaking

Physical Development

Moving and handling
Health and self-care

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Self-confidence and self-awareness
Managing feelings and behaviour
Making relationships

The **four specific areas** are:

Literacy (reading, writing)

Mathematics (numbers, shape, space and measures)

Understanding the World (people and communities, the world, technology)

Expressive Arts and Design (exploring and using media and materials, being imaginative)

We use the guidance material, 'Early Years Outcomes' from Early Education (www.gov.uk/government/publications) to inform our planning. This guidance breaks down each area and puts necessary information into age bands.

Underpinning the guidance are four principles – A Unique Child, Positive Relationships, Enabling Environments and Children Develop and Learn in Different Ways and at Different Rates.

We also take into consideration the Characteristics of Effective Learning which is also part of the guidance. This looks at playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically. As well as this, children's individual needs, interests, and where they are at in their development are taken into account when planning.

Pre-Prep School

In Pre-Prep, our policy is that the core subjects of English, Maths and Science follow the requirements of the National Curriculum and offer challenges to pupils that go beyond the National Curriculum. In other subjects, priorities are set by the school with regard to our values and to the requirements of the Prep school. For example, in History we want our pupils to develop an understanding spanning pre-history to the Vikings. This then feeds into the History curriculum of the Prep school, which covers the major features of British History from the Normans through to the twentieth century.

Subject	Follows NC+ ?	30 minute lessons per week			Notes
		Y3	Y2	Y1	
ADT	Y	2	3	2	Class teacher
English	Y	6	7	7.5	Class teacher
French		1	1	1	Specialist
Geography	Y	2	1.5	2	Class teacher
History	Guided by NC	2	1.5	2	Class teacher
IT		1	1	1	Specialist
Maths	Y	7	7.5	7.5	Class teacher
Music	Y	2	2	2	Specialist
PE and Games		3	3	3	Specialist
PSHE		20 minutes every other week	20 minutes	1 every other week	Class teacher

RS		1	1	1	Class teacher
Science	Y	2	2	2	Class teacher

Prep School

One of the main focuses of the curriculum in the Prep School is ensuring that pupils are thoroughly prepared for their transition to senior schools. The senior schools chosen by parents and pupils, in consultation with us, are varied: local maintained schools, independent day schools and boarding schools.

	English	Maths	Science	History	Geography	ADT	Music	French	IT	Games	PE	RS	PSHE	Drama	Spanish
Yr 4	280	280	120	75	75	110	80	80	40	150	40	40	35	35	
Yr5	240	240	155	80	70	120	75	120	40	150	40	40	35	35	
Yr 6	240	240	145	80	80	110	80	120	40	150	40	40	35	40	
Yr 7	200	240	145	80	80	110	80	120	40	150	0	40	40	40	80
Yr 8	200	240	155	80	80	115	80	120	35	150	0	35	35	40	80

Subjects follow the CE syllabus, where appropriate and are informed by the National Curriculum.

Pupils excused from a subject.

In common with many other schools, pupils who have learning difficulties, may be excused language lessons to focus on their literacy and maths skills. The decision is made in consultation with the ID department, parents and, where relevant, the pupil's designated senior school.

Homework (Prep)

Homework is a key part of the curriculum at South Lee School and serves to reinforce the work covered in class. Homework is set according to a timetable and the quantity is dependent on age and the demands of the curriculum. Pupils record their homework in their Pupil Planner, along with the due date. Parents are expected to support with ensuring homework is completed according to the timetable and are asked to sign the planner weekly to acknowledge this. For children in the Prep School, there is regular teacher-supervised 'prep' each evening and teachers will always make themselves available to support pupils when required to do so.

In Pre Prep, pupils have 15 minutes per night for times tables or spellings. They are also asked to read aloud to parents for 10 minutes every evening.

In the Prep school, pupils are issued with a homework timetable. This sets out which subjects (1-2 per night and the expected duration (20-30 min) per subject. (See Appendix I)

Co-curricular activities

Co-curricular activities are offered before school, at lunchtimes and at the end of every school day. They include choirs, sports clubs, IT clubs, cookery club, chess club and a variety of others depending upon the season and the expertise and interests of teachers at the school. Our policy is to ensure a choice of at least two after school clubs every day.

Details of the current term's clubs can be found on the school website.

<https://www.southlee.co.uk/parents/calendar-clubs/>

Educational visits

Educational visits play a key role in supporting the curriculum at South Lee. Classes from Reception all the way through to Year 8 are taken on trips by subject teachers to bolster curriculum delivery. These include day visits to cathedrals, museums, farms, etc. We also offer residential trips with a focus on team-building and trip-specific skill development.

Academic Enrichment Programme

Pupils participate in academic enrichment activities throughout the year and as a normal part of school life. Whether it be through visiting artist workshops, themed weeks aligned with a national focus, or through working with our parents, staff are always looking to further the curriculum offer through enrichment activities.

Appendix I

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4B (20 -25mins)	English <i>Reading</i>	Maths <i>Reading</i>	<i>Reading</i>	English <i>Reading</i>	Maths English <i>Reading</i>
5A (20 -25mins per subject)	History	Maths	Geography	French RS	English Science
5R (20 -25mins per subject)	RS	History	English	French Science	Maths Geography
6M (25 -30 mins per subject)	Maths	Science	RS	French Geography	English History
6W (25 -30 mins per subject)	Maths	Science	French	History Geography	English RS
Year 7 (25 -30 mins per subject)	English Geography	Maths RS	French Spanish	Science Reading	History Maths
Year 8 (30+ mins per subject)	English History RS*(to be completed on the following Thursday)	Science Geography	French Spanish	Maths RS	Maths Science
<i>Year 8 may well have revision or past papers to complete on top of their prep or as an alternative.</i>					