

Curriculum Policy Statement 2018

Our Curriculum

At Nursling C of E Primary School our curriculum aims to be broad and balanced to provide rich and memorable learning experiences where children connect with important values for life in a calm, stimulating environment so that every child grows and flourishes to reach their full potential and become life-long learners.

The curriculum is structured to promote progression and develop knowledge and skills in each curriculum area which reinforce and complement each other. Text drivers in English have been carefully chosen for each year group and they form the base for each class topic. Meaningful links are then made between subjects which enables the children to make connections in their learning, apply skills in different contexts and create a more holistic, relevant educational experience.

Our curriculum design acknowledges:

- The core values, vision and ethos of the school.
- That children need to be taught to be social and have a good idea of what it is to grow up healthily including a healthy understanding of the environment and sustainability.
- That children need to be taught the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to be successful life-long learners.
- That mastery and reasoning is facilitated through teachers ensuring pupils have sufficient knowledge in an area to be able to apply and extend concepts they have gained.
- Children are taught to meet the challenges of a changing world e.g. to be flexible, sometimes to be able to lead a team and at other times to be part of a team.
- The importance of pedagogy and research in learning. We aim to draw out individual children's talents and enable every child to be successful and confident.

Curriculum Enhancement

To achieve their full potential we recognise that children learn best when they are enjoying a range of learning experiences. This is achieved through visits, visitors, residential trips and other outdoor learning experiences which provides our children with an exciting and challenging cross-curricular approach to teaching and learning.

Extended School Opportunities

The school participates in a variety of sports festivals at the feeder secondary school and we also offer a wide range of sports and teacher led clubs for children to participate in during and after school. These are set on a half-termly basis and are listed on the school website.

Focus Days / Love Days

Some aspects of the curriculum are delivered or enrich through focus days. The timetable is suspended and activities are focused on a key theme. Examples for 2018/19 include:

For the love of reading, For the love of friendship, For the love of Christmas, For the love of Art, Anti-bullying Day, Evacuee Day, NSPCC Number Day.

Learning Behaviours

Every child has a right to learn. Our children are taught skills that support them to be successful in school and also set them up with the right work ethic for the future. Our pupils are encouraged to be:

Resourceful – we want our children to use their own initiative, think about what they can use to help support them in their learning. We encourage our children to ask questions and conduct research using technology and more traditional methods to find the answers.

Responsible – we want our children to collaborate and co-operate together to become independent learners who believe in themselves. We encourage our children to have pride in their work and to encourage and support others.

Reflective – children need to be taught to deal with change successfully through reflection and awareness of self and others. We want to see our children evaluating their work and develop the ability to believe that they can always improve. Children use effective 'Assessment For Learning' at the end of each session which informs the class teachers planning and the child's next steps. 'Read and Respond' encourages our children to reflect more deeply and assess prior learning.

Resilient – we want to see our children be motivated to learn from their mistakes and use skills and strategies to re-think an aspect of learning to improve. We encourage our children to stay focussed and show perseverance even if they are finding it challenging.

Ready to Learn – we want to see our children have the right learning ethos, settle quickly into class and show a desire to engage in their learning. All children start each new day on the behaviour board that states they are 'Ready to Learn' and encouraged to move through to show 'Outstanding' learning behaviours in the classroom.

Foundation Stage

Planning for the foundation stage (Year R) uses Learning Outcomes to implement the statutory requirements for the education of children in Early Years' settings and to assess children against the Early Learning Goals and the Early Years Profile at the end of the year to evidence Good Levels of Development (GLD). The key areas of learning are as follows:

Communication and Language

Physical development

Personal, social and emotional development

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the world

Expressive arts and design

Our children learn through teaching, play and hands-on experiences, (Discovery Time) provided in a well-structured learning environment both in and outside the classroom.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

The National Curriculum is statutory for all pupils from Year 1 upwards. This consists of the core subjects of English, Maths and Science and foundation subjects: PE, History, Geography, Art, DT, Computing and Music. In addition, Religious Education is an important subject in our curriculum. All the children have a specialist music teacher each week to develop their musical skills. In Key Stage 2 French is taught.

A useful link for parents on the National Curriculum is <https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum>

Religious Education

As a Church of England School, we are explicit in teaching the children about Christianity and encourage them to develop Christian values. We also teach them about other faiths and promote respect and sensitivity towards those with beliefs different from our own. Revd Julian Williams visits the school for Collective Worship each week. The whole school celebrates a range of Christian festivals at St John's Church as well as visits to St Boniface Church to enhance the curriculum.

We hope that all children will participate in the religious education and worship at the school. However, we respect the parent's rights to withdraw their child from this part of school life. Such requests should be discussed with the Head teacher.

Physical Education

Physical Education is promoted well from within school through lessons and competitions. In our physical education lessons we cover the following areas: gymnastics, dance, games, athletics and swimming. Lessons are planned to enable children to work at their own personal level. The school has an extensive programme of after school and lunchtime sports clubs and activities run by Mrs White and Miss White. Being inclusive to all, every child has the opportunity to attend at least one sports festival at the feeder secondary school each school year.

Computing

The school has a wireless network and server which can be accessed by all staff and children. Interactive Whiteboards are used extensively in each classroom and we have a range of up to date equipment including laptops and Ipads for the children to use to support and enhance their learning.

French

Children have weekly French lessons taught by Madame Gregson from Year 3 through to Year 6.

Sex Education

Sex Education takes place throughout the school at age appropriate level. Years 5 & 6 have talks on personal hygiene, healthy living and physical changes. Parents are invited into school in advance (during the summer term) to pre-view what will be taught in upper Key Stage 2.