



SHANKLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Policy

Policy Control Details			
Date policy approved:	January 2020		
Prepared by:	Helen Brown	Signature	Date
Approved for issue by:	Gareth Pearson	Signature	Date
Review period:	2 years		
Review required by:	January 2022		
Responsibility for review:	Performance Improvement Committee		

Curriculum Intent

1 Introduction

1.1 Our school's curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning, and personal growth and development. It includes not only the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, but also the various extra-curricular activities that the school organises in order to enrich the children's experience. It also includes the 'hidden curriculum' – what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave. We want children to grow into positive, responsible people, who can work and cooperate with others while at the same time developing their knowledge, cultural capital and skills, in order to achieve their true potential in their future lives. We aim for everyone to be the best that they can be.

1.2 We endorse the aspirations concerning curriculum that are set out in the DfES document *Excellence and Enjoyment*, and we seek the highest standards of attainment for all our children. We also value the breadth of the curriculum that we provide. We aim to foster creativity in our children, and to help them become independent learners. Above all we believe in making learning fun.

2 Values

2.1 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.

2.2 Our school is in full agreement with the values statement included in the introduction to the National Curriculum Handbook for Primary Teachers in England. These are the main values of our school, upon which we have based our curriculum:

- We value children's uniqueness, we listen to the views of individual children, and we promote respect for diverse 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, and we organise our curriculum to promote inclusion, cooperation and understanding among 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 want to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all our pupils.
- We will strive to meet the needs of all our children, and to ensure that we meet all statutory requirements regarding inclusion.
- We value our environment, and we want to teach our pupils, through our curriculum, how we should take care of the world, not only for ourselves, but also for future generations.

3 Aims

3.1 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 teach children the basic skills of literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology (ICT);

- to enable children to be creative and to develop their own thinking;
- to teach children about the developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time;
- to help children understand Britain's cultural heritage;
- to appreciate and value the contribution made by all ethnic groups in our multi-cultural society;
- to enable children to be positive citizens;
- to fulfil all the requirements of the National Curriculum and the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education;
- to teach children to have an awareness of their own spiritual development, and to distinguish 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 live and work cooperatively with others.
- To develop the cultural capital of our pupils by enhanced experiences and opportunities.

IMPLEMENTATION

4 Organisation and Planning

4.1 We plan our curriculum in three phases. We agree a long-term plan for each key stage. This indicates what topics are to be taught in each term, and to which groups of children. We review this long-term plan on an annual basis.

4.2 Through our medium-term plans we give clear guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies for each topic. As we follow Government guidelines, we take our medium-term planning directly from their guidance documents. We also use the national schemes of work for much of our medium-term planning in the foundation subjects.

4.3 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.

4.4 In the Early Years, at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, we adopt an inter-disciplinary topic approach to curriculum planning where appropriate. We plan the curriculum carefully, so that there is coherent and full coverage of all aspects of the National Curriculum and early learning goals, and there is planned progression in all curriculum areas.

4.5 In Key Stage 2 we teach some subjects separately. This means that, for example, a child may concentrate in one term on a history topic then switch to a greater emphasis on geography in the next term. Thus, in due course, each child has the opportunity to experience the full range of National Curriculum subjects.

4.6 Where the structure of the school classes change from year to year care is taken to ensure the curriculum will be reviewed and plans developed to ensure skills are developed sequentially and coherently

5 The curriculum and inclusion

5.1 The curriculum in our school is designed to be accessed by all children who attend the school. If we think it necessary to modify some children's access to the curriculum, in order to meet their needs, then we do this only after their parents have been consulted.

5.2 If children have special needs, our school does all it can to meet the individual needs, and we comply with the requirements set out in the SEN Code of Practice. If a child displays signs of having special needs, then his/her teacher makes an assessment of this need. In most instances the teacher is able to provide the resources and educational opportunities that meet the child's needs, within normal class organisation. If a child's need is more severe, we consider involving external SEN professionals. Longer term, it is sometimes appropriate to apply for an EHCP where additional funding will support the child to access learning.

5.3 The school provides a Pupil passport or profile for each of the children who are on the special needs register. This sets out the nature of the special need, and outlines how the school will aim to address it. These will also set out areas for development, so that we can review and monitor the progress of each child at regular intervals. These are developed following consultation with staff, pupils and parents.

5.4 Some children in our school have disabilities. We are committed to meeting the needs of these children, as we are to meeting the needs of all groups of children within our school. The school complies fully with the requirements of the amended Disability Discrimination Act that came into effect in September 2002. All reasonable adjustments are taken to ensure that these children are not placed at an avoidable disadvantage compared to non-disabled children. Teaching and learning is appropriately modified for children with disabilities. For example, they may be given additional time to complete certain activities, or the teaching materials may be adapted. Where children have specific additional needs the curriculum will ensure they gain the necessary lifeskills.

5.5 The school has implemented the recommendations of *The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry: Macpherson Report* (1999). Our schemes of work address the diversity of our society, and reflect the National Curriculum programmes of study.

6 The Foundation Stage

6.1 The curriculum that we teach in the reception class meets the requirements set out in the revised statutory framework for the Foundation Stage, and the guidance produced in September 2012. Our curriculum planning focuses on the Early Learning Goals, as set out in these documents, and on developing children's skills and experiences.

6.2 Our school fully supports the principle that young children learn through play, and by engaging in well-planned and structured activities. Teaching in the reception class builds on the experiences of the children in their pre-school learning. We do all we can to build positive partnerships with the various nurseries and other pre-school providers in the area.

6.3 Each term in the reception class the teacher will assess the skills development of each child against the EYFS profile. This assessment forms an important part of the future curriculum planning for each child.

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

6.5 We will endeavour to provide opportunities to enhance the cultural experiences for all our pupils.

7 Key Stage One and Two

7.1 The curriculum in Key Stage One and Two follows the National Curriculum for schools

7.2 Whilst we recognise the importance of basic literacy and numeracy skills, we aim to make the curriculum broad and balanced across all subjects.

7.3 Visits, visitors and real life experiences are used to bring the curriculum to life.

7.4 We recognise the importance of reading to a child's life chances and make this central to our curriculum.

7.5 We recognise the importance of home in a child's development and work with parents and guardians to ensure the child is supported in their learning. Home learning will be encouraged and supported (see Homework Policy)

7.6 The child's emotional wellbeing is supported by staff in all aspects of the school day.

8 Key skills

8.1 The following skills have been deemed 'key skills' in the revised National Curriculum:

- communication;
- application of number;
- information technology;
- working with others;
- improving one's own learning and performance;
- problem-solving.
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- 8.2 In addition we identify the importance of resilience and emotional wellbeing on learning attitudes.

8.3 In our curriculum planning we emphasise all these skills, so that the children's progress in all of these areas can be identified and monitored. Teachers in all subject areas seek to contribute to a child's progress in these skills, because we believe that all children need to make good progress in these areas if they are to develop their true potential.

9 The role of the subject leaders

9.1 The role of the subject leaders is to:

- provide a strategic lead and direction for their subjects;
- support and advise colleagues on issues related to their subjects;
- monitor pupils' progress in that subject area;
- provide efficient resource management for the subject.

9.2 It is the role of each subject leader to keep up to date with developments in their subject, at both national and local level. They review the way the subject is taught in the school, and plan for improvement. This development planning links to whole-school objectives. Each subject leader reviews the curriculum plans for the subject, ensures that there is full coverage of the National Curriculum, and sees that progression is planned into schemes of work. They identify opportunities to enhance pupils' cultural capital through their subjects.

10 Monitoring and review

10.1 Our governing body's curriculum committee is responsible for monitoring the way the school curriculum is implemented. This committee reviews each subject area during its bi-annual cycle of review and development.

10.2 There is a named governor assigned to each of the following three areas: literacy, numeracy and ICT. These governors liaise with the respective subject leaders, and monitor closely the way these subjects are taught. There is also a named governor assigned to special needs, who liaises with the SEN coordinator, and monitors the ways in which special needs are addressed.

10.3 The head teacher is responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the curriculum. The head teacher and deputy head teacher ensure that all classes are taught the full requirements of the National Curriculum, and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives.

IMPACT

11. Assessing Impact

The impact of our curriculum will be measured against the following criteria

11.1 High standards of attainment and progress in National Testing of academic subjects – at the end of EYFS, KS1 and KS2 plus Y1 Phonics tests and Y4 Tables Check (2020 onwards)

11.2 All vulnerable groups (SEND, PP, Gender) will make at least good progress

11.3 Pupils will be ready for the next stage of their learning through the use of KPIs in each subject.

11.4 Pupils will be "secondary-ready", both emotionally and academically by the end of Year 6

11.5 Pupils will be able to read age-appropriate books fluently and access work in other subjects.

11.6 Pupils demonstrate the necessary attitudes and transferable skills for life long learning and success in life.

11.7 Attendance and behaviour

11.8 Views of all stakeholders (pupils, staff and parents) will be sought on a regular basis.

A summarised version of this policy will be used for different users and will be displayed around school

EYFS	Be the best we can be
KS1	We all work together to become the best we can be
KS2	Every day we work as a team to support and allow everyone to become the best we can be In our work, in our play, for now and the future.
Staff and Parents	Every day we work as a team to create an environment where everyone is allowed and supported to become the best they can be emotionally, physically, academically and culturally for now and for the future.

This policy is monitored by the governing body and will be reviewed every two years, or before if necessary

