



Curriculum intent statement

'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13'

Curriculum Intent

Rooted in the Christian faith, our curriculum puts the child at the centre of our caring, sharing, achieving school, where positive relationships, based on mutual trust and respect are at the heart of everything we do. Our ambitious curriculum has been designed to take account of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and the Primary National Curriculum. It exposes our children to enriching experiences, immersing them in progressive knowledge and skills; equipping them with personal characteristics required to succeed in life. The creative and performing arts are important to our curriculum delivery and ensure that our children are immersed in vibrant experiences, allowing each of them to express themselves as an individual.

The key principles behind the design of our curriculum are for our children to:

- be confident, independent and resilient; displaying a thirst for learning
- be kind; showing empathy and compassion whilst valuing diversity
- achieve academically across the entire curriculum, meeting at least the national expectation by the end of their primary education
- be aware of their Christian heritage and the strength that can be gained from its beliefs and values
- be culturally knowledgeable about our country and our world
- have aspirations for the future and know that these can be reached through hard work and determination
- be well prepared for the challenges of the secondary school curriculum.

Ultimately, we want all of our children, to be the best they can be, making a positive contribution to the world they live in.

Curriculum Implementation

Children are expected to work hard and demonstrate positive learning behaviours to both maximise their own individual learning potential as well as contribute to the school and wider community. We have a strong partnership with the local Church that builds on the school's foundation of faith with Christian responses to current affairs. Our school House System allows us to reward the behaviours we strive to develop. We have high expectations of attendance, academic achievement and pupil behaviour. We are committed to working in partnership with parents as we believe that when home and school work closely together we get the best outcomes for our pupils.

As well as RE, PSHE and Philosophy are central to our curriculum, which we deliver to closely meet the needs of our pupils. Our RE curriculum follows the diocesan's Emmanuel project and allows all pupils to reflect on the key questions of life. We use the PSHE Association framework, and focus on well-being, positive self-awareness, relationships and the wider world. This is supported by the work of our Learning Mentor throughout the school. Our pupils have access to a wide range of

opportunities which promote personal safety and pupil voice with all children being actively involved in whole school decision making through the School Council, E-Safety, and Road Safety Officers.

Our curriculum recognises the importance of pupils' physical and mental well-being in shaping their long-term life-style choices.

We believe that our fundamental task is to teach our children to speak and therefore be able share their views clearly and articulately and to read and write effectively. Reading across all curriculum areas is a priority to extend and deepen pupils understanding and use of vocabulary. We want pupils to develop a love of reading during their time at Rattlesden, and be exposed to a range of high- quality classic and contemporary literature.

In order to raise aspirations and equip children with a real belief that they can achieve, if they are prepared to work hard, it is imperative that we prioritise experiential learning within our curriculum. Visitors are regularly invited into school, educational and residential visits are carefully chosen to deepen understanding and we make the most of our beautiful outdoor learning environment to enhance hands-on learning experiences, including Forest School throughout EYFS and Key Stage 1.

Children from across the school have access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities in both sport, music and the creative and performing arts.

Continuing Professional Development for all staff is a priority to ensure they have the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver the highest standards across the entire curriculum. Music, art and sports specialists work alongside teaching staff to enhance curriculum delivery. We annually take part in external projects including Young Art East Anglia, and County Music performances at The Arc. Subject Leaders have the necessary expertise to play a pivotal role in both the design and delivery of their subject area; ensuring a clear progression of both skills and knowledge across all year groups. They are members of subject associations. They can confidently articulate how learning is re-visited and developed year-on-year, to ensure a real depth of learning right across the school. Curriculum 'threads' are interwoven through planning. These are: Beliefs & Values, Art & Architecture, Environment & sustainability, Key Figures & Discoveries and Inventions. They allow children to make connections and build deeper understandings between topics. Research shows: '...when **we mix up our study materials, we start to notice both the similarities and differences among the things we're learning, and this can give us a better and deeper understanding of the material.**' (Bjork') They are bespoke to our pupils and their community. Our curriculum is designed by our school community, building on areas of strength, passion and relevance.

Impact

- Our children demonstrate confidence, independence, resilience and a real thirst for learning. Learning behaviours are excellent.
- Our children are able to form meaningful relationships based upon mutual respect and trust, recognising and celebrating difference, not only within the school community, but in the wider world as well.
- Our children have access to a wide and varied curriculum, allowing each of them to excel as individuals and be the 'best' they can be. Believe, Embrace and Shine Together.
- Our aim is that children achieve at least the expected standard across the entire curriculum by the end of Key Stage Two.
- Our children are well prepared to access the challenges of the secondary school curriculum.
- Our children have aspirations for the future and know that these can be realised with hard work and determination.
- Our children grow up being able to make a positive contribution to the world in which they live.

H Ballam

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