

Curriculum Statement for the Academic Year 2008/2009

Year 1

The Year 1 Curriculum is planned using the National Curriculum documents for England. English and Mathematics are taught using the revised Primary Framework for Literacy and Mathematics as well as aspects of the Early Learning Goals for Foundation Stage.

English (Literacy)

Speaking and Listening

The children will learn how to speak clearly, thinking about the needs of their listeners. They will work in small groups and as a class, joining in discussions, making relevant points and responding to simple questions. They will also learn how to listen carefully to what other people are saying, so that they can remember the main points. They will learn to use language in imaginative ways and express their ideas and feelings when working in role and in drama activities.

Reading

During Year One, pupil's interest and pleasure in reading are developed, as they learn to read a wide range of texts confidently, independently and with increasing accuracy. They will use a variety of strategies in order to read unfamiliar words, such as letter-sound relationships and contextual clues. They will make predictions, discuss the meaning of the text and express opinions and preferences about their reading books.

Writing

The children will start to enjoy writing for a variety of purposes and see the value of it. They will learn to communicate meaning in narrative and non-fiction texts. They will use simple sentence construction and basic punctuation correctly and read through their writing to check that it makes sense.

▪ *Composition*

The children will be encouraged to put their ideas into sentences and use a clear structure to organise their writing. They will try to use an adventurous and wide-ranging vocabulary and vary their writing according to the purpose and the audience.

▪ *Spelling*

Children should use their knowledge of sound-symbol relationships and phonological patterns to help them write words. They will also learn to spell a range of common words and recognise and use simple spelling patterns and common letter strings.

▪ *Handwriting*

The children should develop a legible style of handwriting by forming letters of a regular size and shape, starting and finishing letters correctly and putting regular spaces between letters and words.

“English as an Additional Language” Provision

We welcome children of all nationalities and as a consequence, a significant proportion of pupils have English as a second language. There is a wide range of English learning needs in each class, therefore EAL teachers work in partnership with class teachers to assess needs, set targets and work with the children. Support is flexible and can be organised in many different ways, for example individual support, small group support or team teaching.



Mathematics (Numeracy)

The children will develop their knowledge and understanding of mathematics through practical activity, exploration and discussion.

Number

The children will learn to count, read, write and order numbers to 20 and beyond. They will describe and extend simple number sequences. They will begin to count in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's and recognise odd and even numbers to 20. They will develop a range of mental calculation skills and use these confidently in different settings. Children will begin to understand the operations of addition and subtraction and the related vocabulary. They will use a variety of calculation techniques, such as halving, doubling and partitioning. Children will choose and use appropriate mental strategy to solve simple problems, including those involving money and using totals.

Shape, Space, Measures and Handling Data

The children will estimate, measure and compare lengths, masses and capacities using standard and non-standard measures. They will progress to reading simple scales. They will be able to name common 2D and 3D shapes and describe their features. They will learn the days of the week and the months of the year. They will learn to read the time to the hour and the half hour. Pupils will solve problems by sorting, classifying and organising information in a list or table.

Science

The children will observe, explore and ask questions about living things, materials and phenomena. They will begin to work together to collect evidence to help them answer questions and to link this to simple scientific ideas. They will evaluate and consider whether tests or comparisons are fair. They will use reference materials to find out more about scientific ideas. They will share their ideas and communicate them using scientific language, drawings, charts and tables. In Year 1 these objectives will be achieved through the following topics:

- ***Ourselves***

The children identify and locate parts of the body and identify the differences between humans and other animals. They will investigate their senses.

- ***Pushes and Pulls***

In this unit children observe, describe and compare the movement of objects in terms of speed and direction.

- ***Sorting and using materials***

Through this unit children will name common materials, investigate and make observations about them, such as why they are suitable for a particular purpose.

- ***Light and Dark***

Children will learn how to name and compare light sources and recognise that we cannot see in the dark. They will learn about animals that are nocturnal (come out at night).

- ***Growing plants***

Through this topic children are introduced to the idea of plants as living things which grow and change. They learn about the parts of a plant and their functions.



Design and Technology

The children will learn how to think imaginatively and talk about what they like and dislike when designing and making. They will build on their early childhood experiences of investigating objects around them. They will explore how familiar things work and talk about, draw and model their ideas. They will learn how to produce their designs using a range of materials and techniques. These objectives will be achieved through the following topics:

- ***Sliding mechanisms***

In this unit, children develop an understanding of simple mechanisms through designing and making moving pictures.

- ***Playgrounds***

Children use a variety of construction kits to learn about framework structures and how to make them stable and able to support loads. They design and make their own playground.

- ***Structures***

Children develop their understanding of structures. They develop and model their ideas by creating models from sheet and reclaimed materials. They design and make their own model house.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The children will explore ICT and learn to use it confidently and with purpose to achieve specific outcomes. They will use a range of software packages in order to use text, pictures, tables and graphs to develop cross-curricular ideas and record their creative work. Year 1 programmes of study will be:

- ***Labelling and Classifying***

Children will learn to use simple criteria to divide groups of objects into sub-sets, and to identify objects by key words.

- ***An introduction to modelling***

Children will learn that a computer can be used to represent real or fantasy situations. They will have the opportunity to work with a roamer and other robotic features.

- ***Using a word bank***

Children will start to develop familiarity with the computer keyboard.

- ***The information around us***

Children will learn that information can be presented in a variety of forms and collected from a range of sources. This topic is linked to work in Science and Mathematics. Children will use the computer to present information they have gathered in these subjects.

- ***Pictograms***

Children will learn how to use ICT to represent information graphically.

- ***Understanding instructions***

Children will learn that machines follow instructions and that they need to be switched on and off, and controlled. They will learn how to sequence instructions so that others can follow them.



History

The children will learn about people's lives and lifestyles from the recent and more distant past. They will listen and respond to stories and use sources of information to help them ask and answer questions. They will learn about how the past is different from the present. In Year 1, these objectives will be achieved through the following topics:

- ***How are toys different from the past?***

This unit looks at similarities and differences between toys today and toys in the past. It introduces children to the concepts of 'old' and 'new', and encourages them to think about the changes in their own lives and in those of their family or adults around them.

- ***Holidays in the past***

This unit compares holidays in the recent past with those taken a long time ago. Children will develop an understanding of chronology and an ability to ask and answer questions about different sources of information.

- ***Houses and homes***

This unit looks at similarities and differences between homes today and homes in the past.

Geography

The children will begin to learn about the wider world. They will carry out geographical enquiry and will ask geographical questions about people, places and environments, and use geographical skills and resources such as maps and photographs. The Year 1 topics will be:

- ***Where in the world is Barnaby Bear?***

This topic uses a first-hand object – Barnaby the teddy bear – to enable the children to learn about other countries and places.

- ***Around our school***

This unit of work involves children in using geographical language to describe features of their immediate environment.

- ***Going to the seaside***

The children will use a range of resources to find out about the seaside and they will identify a variety of seaside places around the world.

Art

Children will develop their creativity and imagination by exploring the visual, tactile and sensory qualities of materials and processes. They will learn about the role of art, craft and design in their environment. They will begin to understand colour, shape, space, pattern and texture and use them to represent their ideas and feelings, using a variety of media and techniques. Year 1 topics will be:

- ***Basic skills***

Children will learn how to mix colours and apply different brush techniques. A variety of artists will be studied to encourage appreciation of different styles.

- ***Self portraits***

Children make a series of self portraits to communicate ideas about themselves.

- ***Investigating materials***

Children investigate the qualities of a variety of natural and made materials. They learn skills for weaving and gain sensory experience of materials and an understanding of colour and texture.



Music

Children will listen carefully and respond physically to a wide range of music. They will be given the opportunity to play musical instruments and sing a variety of songs from memory, adding accompaniments and creating short compositions, with increasing confidence, imagination and control. They will explore and enjoy how sounds and silence can create different moods and effects.

Physical Education

The children will participate in weekly physical education lessons, learning skills from a variety of games and physical activities. The children will take part in activities relating to:

- Games (both net/wall and invasion games.)
- Athletics (running, jumping and throwing.)
- Swimming
- Dance
- Gymnastics

At all times children will be encouraged to enjoy working with their peers and to be active team members. They will be taught the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and basic health and hygiene.

Religious Education

Children will be encouraged to begin to develop their knowledge and understanding of different faiths to help them understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions (including ethical life stories), and understand the influence of these on individuals, societies, communities and cultures.

Citizenship and Personal, Social and Health Education

Citizenship and PSHE aims to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed active, responsible citizens. The programme of study comprises of four interrelated aspects:

- Developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities;
- Preparing to play an active role as citizens;
- Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle;
- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.

Homework

Children will be given reading books and library books to take home. It is expected that the children read these books with an adult. A reading diary will be available for adults to record progress made at home. Each week, children will also be expected to complete one homework task, which will relate to an aspect of the work covered in class that week. They will have spelling or reading words to learn each week based on keywords and/or spelling patterns.



Social Expectations

- Children should learn and follow the school rules for behaviour both in the classroom and on the playground;
- They should show an understanding of basic good manners both in and out of the classroom;
- They should show an awareness of and begin to learn about their own and other people's feelings and become aware of the views, needs and rights of others;
- They will learn how to share, take turns, play and help others.
- They should be able to undress and dress themselves alone, including buttons, buckles and laces etc.
- They should be able to look after their own belongings and pack and unpack their own bags, and materials when needed including library books, P.E. bags, swimming kits, reading folders and letters.
- They should be able to look after their own basic needs themselves such as drinking and eating, going to the bathroom, washing their hands and blowing their noses.
- They should be able to manage their materials and tidy up after themselves.