



Curriculum Policy and Statement of Intent

Introduction

At Finchale Primary School, our curriculum is based on the Early Years 2012 Framework for Reception and the September 2014 National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

As an inclusive and caring school, our curriculum is designed to promote and enhance the learning of all of our pupils. We are developing a rich, exciting and well-structured curriculum and supporting this with high quality first teaching. We want our pupils to develop a thirst for learning, to be knowledgeable about their local area, and the wider world around them, and to be prepared for the next stage of their school journey.

We further enhance pupils' learning and experiences during their time with us by providing a wide range of enrichment opportunities including visitors into school, educational visits, creative experiences and extra-curricular activities. We draw on the professional expertise from within our own organisation as well as from the wider community. This includes specialist teachers, university lecturers and researchers, artists, theatre groups, enterprise workshops and sports leaders to name but a few.

Our aim is to provide our children with an engaging, exciting and empowering curriculum that equips them not only for today but prepares them for tomorrow.

'We see the magic in every child . . . and help make them sparkle.'

Values

Finchale Primary School is a vibrant school with a community which cares about the whole child. We pride ourselves on our inclusive approach, with staff constantly striving to bring out the best in every child, regardless of ability, by raising aspirations and promoting a healthy lifestyle. Every child is encouraged to be aspirational, open-minded, creative and inquisitive. We want every child to feel proud of themselves, their achievements and the contribution they make to our community. We encourage our pupils to follow and use our school values throughout the school day and in their everyday lives. These are:

Trust
Respect
Resilience
Inclusivity
Community
Kindness

Our school values promote respect for the views, opinions and feelings of each individual pupil, as well as for people of all cultures, backgrounds and beliefs. By ensuring British Values are introduced, shared and promoted we prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain. We want our pupils to be respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world. We also value the spiritual and moral development of each pupil as well as their intellectual and physical growth. We believe that good mental health and wellbeing is vital for our pupils to thrive and be prepared to embrace life's opportunities and face its' challenges.

Our Aims

At Finchale Primary School we believe that every member of our school should feel valued, respected and part of our caring community. We believe this can best be achieved through the following aims of our school:

- To create an exciting, vibrant and safe learning environment in which children are valued and encouraged to reach their full potential.
- To provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum based on the basic skills which ensures continuity and progression, enabling children to achieve well.
- To develop skills and values which will ensure children are well-equipped for the next stage of their development and which will enhance their life-chances.

- To develop respect, tolerance and understanding for all and to increase awareness of the wider world around us.
- To ensure each and every individual, adult and pupil, is valued for the contribution they make to our school community.
- To provide appropriate support to ensure everyone can achieve all that they are capable of whilst ensuring pupils develop independence and self-esteem, encouraging them to increasingly take responsibility for their own learning.

Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is carefully designed to ensure that learning is sequential and progressive. Staff plan lessons that are engaging, exciting and interesting, building upon pupils' previous knowledge. They are delivered using a variety of approaches and resources, reflecting the needs of our pupils and the nature of the lesson. When appropriate, learning will be supported by experiences available in the local and regional area. This enables pupils to know more and remember more, whilst making connections to previous learning and enabling them to make future connections when they develop new knowledge.

The Reception curriculum is planned on a yearly basis linking to the Prime and Specific Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage and is guided by the children's interests. In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, our curriculum is planned to ensure that pupils have a wide range of experiences on which to base their learning experiences upon.

The following National Curriculum subjects are taught:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Art
- Music
- Computing
- Design Technology
- Geography
- History
- Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish in Key Stage 1 and French in Key Stage 2)
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education

These are supported by our holistic approach to the social and emotional aspects of learning. We also embrace the moral, spiritual and health needs of our pupils and evidence of this can be seen throughout the school in displays, in classrooms and by talking to the children themselves.