

Northlew C of E Primary School Curriculum implementation

As a school we cover all aspects of the National Curriculum 2014: English, Maths, Science, Art, Computing, Design Technology, Geography, History, Languages, Music and Physical Education. In addition, we follow the Devon agreed syllabus for Religious Education 2019 and have a ensure progression in Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education as well as Relationships and Sex Education.

Our class teachers deliver the curriculum in an engaging and creative way. All our lessons are designed to be accessed by all learners and focus on the knowledge and skills the children need. Teachers select precise content and sequence learning accordingly to ensure that pupils acquire new knowledge and skills incrementally. Throughout their school career, children have the opportunity to revisit learning; making links and referring back to past learning they have experienced.

Phonics

At Northlew School we use Letters and Sounds as a foundation for Phonics teaching. Children in the EYFS (Phase 1-4) and Year 1 (Phase 5) will have daily, discrete, phonics lessons following a pattern of revisit, teach, practise, apply. Children will then progress onto the 'No nonsense' spelling pathway from Year 2. Phonics will be revisited as necessary throughout the children's school career and children will be reminded of phonics sounds and spelling patterns using additional resources, displays and small group activities.

Reading

Reading is a key skill which underpins our curriculum. Throughout the school we foster a love of reading and model positive reading attitudes.

Children will have access to early reading books appropriate to their phonics stage (stage 2-5) which then progresses further into key stage 2 before making use of the wide range of literature available in our school library. Our school librarians organise and run several events throughout the year to engage all our pupils in reading activities as well as running lunchtime story clubs for our younger children. We expect parents and carers to read at home with their child at least 5 times a week.

In addition to this, children will take part in weekly guided reading sessions following the 'Re-think reading' scheme as developed by Babcock Education. This group reading activity builds comprehension, vocabulary, prediction, summarising and inference. At the end of each day, staff share high-quality texts with the children to develop a love for reading whilst building upon vocabulary.

Writing

Children are taught to write across the curriculum. In English lessons, the teaching of writing is based around 'Texts that teach' and the 'Talk for writing' principles. The use of high-quality texts emerges children in vocabulary rich genres and provides opportunities for the children to explore how authors manipulate their reader using grammar and vocabulary. Throughout the year the children will cover a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts and a range of genres.

Handwriting is discretely taught until children have clear and legible joined writing.

Maths

Our maths curriculum broadly follows the 'White Rose' maths schemes of learning. Our approach ensures that all learners needs are met through our maths MICE – we use manipulatives to physically show mathematics, images to show how maths can be represented, calculations and explanations. Children are challenged to experiment, explore and investigate mathematical theories and principles to further their understanding. Mental arithmetic is practised daily as part of our maths lessons. As a school we encourage children to make connections across the curriculum, maths is a vital skill throughout their learning, including science, computing, geography and others.

Science

Our science curriculum meets the needs of the 21st century whilst giving the children core science knowledge using and developing our knowledge organisers. Our science programme of study covers all areas in the national curriculum and beyond. We believe in learning through practical experience so children will have the opportunity to experiment and explore around a wide range of scientific concepts. Children throughout the school will use their ICT and maths skills within science as well as links to other areas of the curriculum such as geography.

Foundation Subjects

Across the curriculum teachers will plan and deliver exciting, engaging and creative lessons. We expect children to make links across the curriculum and link this to their experiences and immediate environment. Trips and visitors are used to enhance curriculum lessons and allow the children to build upon their knowledge and experience.

Additional resources such as 'Real PE' are used to enhance the teacher's lessons and provide a support mechanism to ensure constant high-quality teaching.

Religious Education

As a Church School, our school Christian Values are interwoven throughout our curriculum. We use the Devon agreed syllabus for Religious Education alongside the Understanding Christianity units. We believe that all children should have the opportunity to explore spirituality and the beliefs and traditions of world religions. RE lessons build upon children's own experiences and widen their horizons to new ideas, beliefs and festivals. Our active Ethos and School Council group meet regularly to discuss, plan and organise a wide range of events throughout the school year.