

# Rawmarsh Ashwood Primary School

# **Curriculum Policy**

(To run alongside WTP curriculum masterplan)

February 2021 Dawn Roper

#### **Curriculum intent**

Our curriculum is broad, balanced and meets the requirements of the national curriculum and is aspirational for our children of Ashwood. It is a knowledge based approach around History and Geography themes and provides children with not only a range of rich and memorable learning experiences but the breadth and progression of the knowledge and development of the skills needed in all subjects.

#### **Curriculum Overview**

Our Long term planning into medium term planning and short term planning show the following threads for our curriculum

- Equality and fairness
- Impact of humans
- Democracy
- Significant people

These threads are integral to our lessons at Rawmarsh Ashwood and help to shape our pupils and prepare them for their young and adult lives.

A common set of values underpins Rawmarsh Ashwood's curriculum to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and the challenges of the rapidly changing world we live and work in. While preparing our children academically for the next phase, through our curriculum, we aim to raise their aspirations and develop;

- · Respect
- · Responsibility
- · Positive attitudes
- · Self confidence
- · Creativity
- · Pride
- Ambition
- · Enthusiasm

The curriculum is carefully designed to fire the children's imaginations and make learning vivid and real for them. Strong, cross curricular links strengthen the relevance of learning and provide opportunities for the children to apply their knowledge and skills in a range of meaningful contexts.

Science is taught as a discrete subject when this does not link to the curriculum topic. Links will be made in other subjects eg when doing living things in PE there will be reference to using parts of the body. RE, PE, Music and French are also taught discretely. Music and PE are taught by specialist teachers from the WPT.

While incorporating a progression in the acquisition of skills and knowledge, the curriculum provides frequent opportunities for the children to reinforce and apply their learning, therefore increasing understanding. Topics also provide frequent opportunities for the children to apply their Maths and English skills in meaningful real life contexts.

Each topic is enriched by the use of new technologies, visits, visitors and first hand experiences to aid understanding. The children are involved at the planning stage as we value their ideas and contributions and want them to be inquisitive and passionate about their learning.

#### **Aims**

- Develop children's skills, knowledge and understanding of a range of themes and concepts.
- Make meaningful links between subjects.
- Make effective connections to the real world.
- Engage children through interesting topics and hands-on activities.
- ▶ Help children to think creatively and solve problems.
- Develop children's capacities to work independently and collaboratively.
- Enable children to make choices about their learning.
- Take account of children's interests and fascinations.

# Our approach:

- facilitates children's acquisition of knowledge, skills and understanding
- helps children to acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning
- ensures that each child's education has continuity and progression
- develops children to the best of their abilities
- helps children to find their passions and interests
- label{eq:balance} helps children to develop intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically and morally
- assists children in becoming independent, responsible, useful, confident and considerate members of the community
- promotes a positive attitude towards learning, so children enjoy coming to school
- > creates and maintains an exciting and stimulating learning environment
- enables children to contribute positively within a culturally diverse society

# **Curriculum design for KS1 and KS2**

Our curriculum design gives each year group/Key Stage phase the opportunity to cover a broad range of themes and subjects. Projects last either a half or full term depending on the amount of content and the children's interests. In some cases, projects may be taught for a shorter period, for example during a science or art week.

# **Subject coverage**

## **English**

English is taught discretely in each year group. English is a core subject and is at the heart of our curriculum. In addition to this, English is taught throughout the curriculum, linking to appropriate knowledge and skills. Each half term covers a range of reading and writing genres and, where appropriate, links to other areas of the curriculum.

Spoken language is promoted throughout the curriculum and across all subjects.

Spelling, vocabulary, grammar and punctuation are taught discretely and promoted throughout all writing opportunities, with each year group following National Curriculum objectives.

#### **Mathematics**

Mathematics is also a core subject and is taught discretely. However, where relevant, mathematics is linked to ongoing curriculum work.

#### Science

Science is taught discretely and follow the WPT's long term plan showing a sequential progression of knowledge and developing the skills needed. Science is taught at least 1 hour a week in classes.

#### **Foundation subjects**

The foundation subjects – history, geography, design and technology, art and design, PE and music – are integrated into each topic and provide enrichment across the curriculum. These may also be taught discretely where necessary to ensure appropriate and effective coverage and progression of the key skills of the subject.

#### <u>French</u>

The teaching of French starts in Year 2 with basic greetings and children are introduced to the language ready to be taught in Y3 and beyond. At Rawmarsh Ashwood we follow the Jolie Ronde scheme of work for French.

#### Specialist teaching

The Wickersley Partnership Trust provide specialist teaching for PE and Music through school. The WPT ensure all objectives are taught within these subjects for the age range of the children and track progression within these subjects. The curriculum leader liaises with WPT specialist teaching staff to ensure links are made within the teaching and learning of the children within the school.

# Philosophy and Ethics (Religious education)

Philosophy and Ethics is a statutory part of the curriculum and follows the Sheffield agreed syllabus. This is taught discretely in each class. At Rawmarsh Ashwood we learn about all faiths and no faiths and the need to respect these by all. Cross-curricular dimensions such as identity, cultural diversity and community cohesion provide important unifying themes that help young people make sense of the world and give education relevance.

As Rawmarsh Ashwood is not very culturally diverse, the teaching of Philosophy and Ethics is vital to ensure respect of all faiths is promoted. The school works closely with parents to ensure that the Philosophy and Ethics curriculum and other aspects of school life respect the faiths and no faiths of the school community.

# **PHSE and citizenship**

PHSE and citizenship are important aspects of our curriculum and are taught discretely through the Jigsaw scheme of work and often link in to topics, for example part of all learning in subjects covers human impact and the human impact on the environment. We also follow the Rawmarsh Ashwood school pledges which provide the children with a range of different experiences to prepare them for citizens of the modern world.



#### Computing

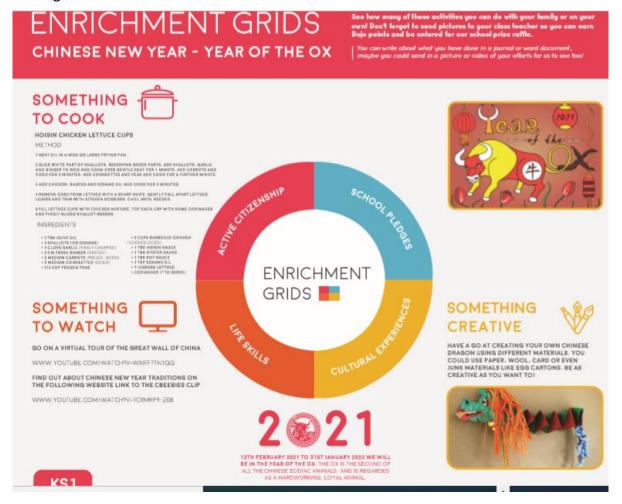
Computing is taught as a discrete programme across school. However, other elements of the computing curriculum are integrated into the curriculum as part of project work. These include esafety, digital publication and presentation, research, data handling and the use of digital media.

#### **Progression of skills**

Each subject is planned using the progression of skills and knowledge for the year group, ensuring that objectives are not repeated but built on and enhanced to ensure progression is made within the subject and the skills within the subject. Each year group follows the skills and knowledge long term plan which all staff have worked on collaboratively through the Trust.

# **Enrichment**

At Rawmarsh Ashwood we want to provide the children with a range of different opportunities through creative and research activities. We have developed enrichment grids to support with key themes throughout the year such as mental health week, Chinese New Year and Shakespeare week. Here the children are given a range of different opportunities to support them in understanding more about the world around them and allow them to participate in events either physically or virtually. Our enrichment lead works with other leaders within the WPT to develop this through the WPT schools.



#### How do we record the Foundation Subjects at Rawmarsh Ashwood?

Each child has a curriculum book which includes all of the work completed within the half term. Progression within the subject knowledge/skills of the subject can be seen in other examples of the children's curriculum books

Work is also displayed through school in corridor and class displays to showcase different subjects. Staff use their knowledge and skills organisers for the topic to assess against what has been achieved within the subject for each child.

## **Assessment of foundation subjects**

The tracking of knowledge and skills for each child is starting to now be recorded on the foundation subjects assessment sheets. This has been postponed due to lockdown but this will be reviewed and rolled out further with other subjects for the summer term

#### **Timetables**

Each year group has a set of non-negotiable allocations for various aspects of the curriculum, including English, mathematics, Science Philosophy and Ethics and PE. Teachers are free to arrange their timetable to make the most of cross-curricular opportunities and the needs of pupils. Sometimes subjects and activities might be 'blocked' or run over successive sessions.