



## Topic Curriculum Policy

### Introduction

At Pattishall CE Primary School we believe that our curriculum should be broad, balanced, relevant and meet the needs of all children whatever their ability. Our curriculum also prepares children for life in modern Britain. The taught curriculum is comprised of the National Curriculum (2014) and the wider curriculum and meets statutory requirements.

We ensure the children have a range of learning experiences that challenge, stimulate and promote thinking through our topic curriculum which encompasses: art and design; design technology; history; and geography. This enables us to provide a high standard of teaching and learning with high engagement from pupils.

### Aims

The aims of the curriculum are to:

- promote high standards in reading, writing and mathematics
- allow children to develop a knowledge of themselves in time and space
- enable children to acquire knowledge and skills in science
- enable children to be confident in the use of ICT
- promote spiritual development
- enable children to be aware of the importance of and participate in the arts and related cultural themes
- enable pupils to develop moral sensibility through carefully taught values
- develop the personal and social skills of each child
- provide equality of access and the opportunity for all pupils to make progress
- prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experience of adult life

The curriculum is planned effectively, providing continuity and progression. It promotes an enjoyment of learning and a commitment to learning and achieving. Through the provision of rich and varied activities, we aim to:

- encourage the best possible progress and the highest attainment for all pupils
- enable pupils to make connections across different areas of learning
- help pupils to think creatively and solve problems
- develop pupils' capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively
- enable pupils to respond positively to opportunities, challenge and responsibility
- enable pupils to acquire and develop a broad range of knowledge, skills and understanding

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We aim to foster a life-long love of learning, through adopting a highly practical and cross-curricular approach. Our Topic Curriculum aims to deliver a twenty-first century education that will equip our children with the skills required to be independent and responsible citizens. Our curriculum aims to develop caring and responsible citizens who:

- are secure in their values and beliefs
- respect others
- recognise responsibilities as part of a global community
- have a sense of worth, purpose and personal identity
- make informed choices
- can handle conflict
- have enquiring minds
- can communicate well
- are able to learn independently and with others
- have essential learning skills in literacy, numeracy, science and ICT
- are creative and resourceful
- develop problem solving skills
- use and apply and transfer skills to differing situations

### **The Organisation of the Curriculum**

The Topic Curriculum applies to Key Stages 1 and 2. The curriculum map indicates the broad topics, objectives and links made between subjects. Each topic usually lasts a full term. The children are taught within their year group but pairs of year groups deliver the same topic over a two year rolling programme.

National Curriculum objectives are incorporated into our planning. Long term planning is flexible year on year as long as the objectives from the National Curriculum are covered. Therefore topics may change.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

*The Headteacher and Subject Leaders are responsible for overseeing the delivery of the curriculum through:*

- Ensure appropriate coverage of the curriculum
- Regular formal and informal discussions with staff.
- Monitoring planning to ensure curriculum and key skills coverage.
- Carrying out book scrutiny alongside planning and to ensure cross-curricular links are optimised.
- Observing learning and teaching to ensure progress is being made within the topics.
- Regular reviews of the curriculum through open dialogue.
- Making changes where necessary.
- Formulating an action plan to move the school forward.
- Speaking with the children about their learning.

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- Publishing curriculum information on the school website.

*Class teachers* ensure that the curriculum is taught and that the aims are achieved for their class. They plan for cross-curricular links where appropriate and make amendments to planning in order to optimise learning opportunities. Assessment For Learning (AFL) is a key aspect and forms a large part of daily teaching to inform next steps whilst working through a topic.

Teaching staff are encouraged to enthuse the children and broaden their experiences through the 'WOW' factor e.g. off-site visits, visitors into school and shared experiences. Teachers celebrate childrens' achievements regularly through displays in classrooms and shared areas and in assemblies where children are encouraged to share their knowledge with the rest of the school.

*Assessment Lead* ensures that the progress of each pupil is tracked and that there is appropriate challenge support and intervention.

*Inclusion Manager* offers support and advice for teachers working with pupils with additional needs. We value the diversity of individuals within the school. All children have equal access to the curriculum and are treated fairly regardless of race, religion or abilities.

*Governors* monitor the success of the curriculum at committee level through regular discussion with staff and visits to the school.

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