

Curriculum Policy

Member of staff responsible: Tracy Edwards and Mike Lawrence
Date of policy: March 2019
Review date: March 2021

1 Introduction

1.1 The curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning and personal growth and development. It is based on the National Curriculum and the Elmhurst curriculum; the activities that the school organises in order to enrich the experience of the children. It also includes the 'hidden curriculum', or what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave. We aim to teach children how to grow into positive, responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others while developing knowledge and skills, so that they achieve their true potential.

2 Values

2.1 Our school curriculum is underpinned by the values that we hold dear at our school.

ELMHURST JUNIOR SCHOOL

We aim to provide a safe, caring, happy and well-ordered environment where everyone's contribution is valued, and all members of our school community develop their full potential.

We aim:

- **to develop the essential skills of oracy, literacy and numeracy in our children and to use these skills in intellectual, imaginative and creative contexts;**
- **to enable children to develop their potential in their specific area of expertise;**
- **to develop in children a love of learning which will continue in their future lives;**
- **to make sure that our children are future ready.**

2.2 Our school is in full agreement with the values statement included in the introduction to The National Curriculum Handbook for Primary Teachers in England. These are the main values of our school, upon which we have based our curriculum:

- We value the way in which all children are unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures. We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth.

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- We value the importance of each person in our community. We organise our curriculum so that we promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community.
- We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We aim to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school.
- We value our environment, and we aim, through our curriculum, to teach respect for our world, and how we should care for it for future generations, as well as our own.

4 Organisation and planning

4.1 We plan our curriculum in three phases. We agree a long-term overview for the key stage. This is currently under development. At the end of this year, we will be able to put in a place an overview plan for the next academic year.

4.2 The next phase is the medium term plan. This is where we identify the detail.

Within our medium-term plans, we give clear guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies that we use when teaching each topic. We use a mixture of the National Curriculum, the National schemes of work and many other resources for our planning. We have adopted an inter-disciplinary topic approach to curriculum planning. We plan the curriculum carefully, so that there is coherence and full coverage of all aspects of the National Curriculum and key objectives, and there is planned progression in all curriculum areas.

4.3 The curriculum at our school places a great emphasis on the core and foundation subjects, and we may teach these subjects separately. This means that, for example, a child may concentrate in one term on a history topic, then switch to a greater emphasis on geography in the next term. Over the three terms of the academic year, each child has the opportunity to experience the full range of National Curriculum subjects.

4.4 Our short-term plans are those that our teachers write on a weekly or daily basis.

5. Community and family involvement

At Elmhurst we believe that it is vital to involve children and parents in the curriculum that their child is participating in. We also use links with other schools in the local area to extend provision. There are many planned and unplanned opportunities for linking the curriculum with the local community and we try to have a flexible approach to these in order to make the most of every situation that arises.



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6 Curriculum Management

The Head teachers, with the leadership team are responsible for the overseeing of the Curriculum but all members of the school community are actively involved in the monitoring, planning and reviews of all subjects.

Subject leads are responsible for the curriculum across the school. This includes, through liaison with the Resources Managers, the resources needed. All members of staff are encouraged to keep up to date with curriculum development, including attendance of courses and meetings.

7 Monitoring and review

7.1 Our Governing body is responsible for monitoring the school curriculum. This is done through planned learning walks with the Head teachers and through the termly Head's report and annual curriculum reports from the subject leaders.

7.2 The Subject leaders are responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the curriculum. Medium term plans are monitored to ensure that all classes are taught the full requirements of the National Curriculum and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives. Weekly plans are available for all members of the school community to monitor.

Signed:.....

Chair of Governors

This policy was agreed by the Governing Body:

Date of next review: March 2021