



Oak Cottage Primary School Curriculum Statement

CURRICULUM INTENT

At Oak Cottage Primary School, we offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced and which builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills of all children, whatever their starting points. The curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the national curriculum but also takes into account the needs and interests of our pupils, enabling them to grow healthily, safely, academically and responsibly.

Our curriculum:

- Ensures equality for everyone, providing opportunities for all members of our community to learn, achieve to the best of their abilities, experience success, gain confidence and grow in independence.
- Motivates and extends all children, helping them to develop a full range of knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Enables children to talk about how they learn, to think creatively, to take risks and handle change, so that they can become lifelong learners, able to respond to the opportunities and challenges of the rapidly changing world in which we live.
- Places an emphasis on the development of courteous, co-operative and caring individuals who are sensitive to the needs of others and form and maintain constructive relationships based on respect.
- Includes high quality PSHE so that pupils are able to develop a positive sense of well-being and keep themselves safe and healthy.
- Encourages children to recognise their responsibilities as citizens by providing opportunities for them to play an active part in school life, take care of their environment and develop their understanding of the mutual interdependence of the global community.

CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

Curriculum Content

Our approach to curriculum design recognises the benefits of a focus on subject specific content coupled with a flexible, thematic approach that enables us to make links across the curriculum.

We use units from Cornerstones Curriculum as the starting point for the construction of half-termly themes: art, history and geography are delivered through these creative learning projects with the other curriculum subjects linked wherever there is a clear and purposeful connection. Each year group has a Curriculum Map.

Although we place a strong emphasis on a thematic approach, in order to ensure progression and coverage, curriculum leaders have developed Long Term Plans that provide an overview for every subject, and for each year group, broken down into half term units.

An overview of each subject is as follows:

English

English units have been developed using the *teachingToolkits* Primary Curriculum for English. The teaching units are progressive and designed to meet the National Curriculum English requirements for each year group from Year 1 to Year 6, covering spoken language, reading and writing. Some units focus on teaching specific text types, while others apply learning across a range of contexts, including cross-curricular reading and writing opportunities. There are 6 units for each year group, balanced to cover fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

Phonics progression in school follows “Letters and Sounds”. Teaching uses a variety of resources, for example ‘Big Cat phonics’ and ‘Phonics Play’.

Mathematics

Mathematics units are based upon the ‘White Rose’ schemes of work. There is a yearly overview for each year group from Year 1 to Year 6. Each term is split into blocks of work, with time allowed for the introduction of new content and the integration of fluency, reasoning and problem solving.

Science

Science planning follows the ‘Engaging Science’ scheme of work which ensures a practical based approach to science teaching. In each year group there are at least five units of work, one of which is taught across the year.

Computing

Computing planning is based on the Teach Computing scheme of work. Each unit also has a specific focus on e-safety if applicable.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology is a school designed curriculum which has three units in each year group. Through a variety of creative and practical activities, pupils are taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in the process of designing and making. Units also focus on cooking and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating.

French

French is a school designed curriculum for Key Stage 2 which has six units per year. The curriculum provides for the development of spoken and written language using the context of familiar themes and routines.

Music

Music follows ‘Get Set for Music’ with units covering: Listening and Appraising; Musical Activities - creating and exploring; and Singing and Performing. All year groups are also involved in at least one musical performance each year.

Physical Education

Physical education is based on a scheme by GetSet4PE. There are two units each half term covering gymnastics, dance, athletics and games. In KS1, the focus is on fundamental skills and in KS2, the children progress to learning the skills of specific sports.

PSHE

The school makes a conscious effort to incorporate PSHE into the curriculum, placing a great deal of importance on the children's emotional health and well-being and the part they can play in the sustainability agenda.

We use Jigsaw PSHE which provides a series of sequential and developmental 'puzzles' across each year group.

Religious Education

The Religious Education curriculum is based on the Solihull agreed syllabus and includes units on all of the major world religions.

Curriculum Enrichment

Our curriculum is extended by a variety of enrichment activities including day visits, cultural experiences and themed days. We also offer lunchtime and after school clubs, which are available throughout the school year. Attendance at the clubs is monitored and pupils consulted to ensure our offer meets needs.

CURRICULUM IMPACT

Oak Cottage uses rigorous triangulated monitoring throughout the year to gauge the impact of the curriculum design. The impact is evidenced as follows:

The children enjoy their learning and we believe it is this enjoyment of the curriculum that promotes achievement, confidence and good behaviour.

The range of learning opportunities provided enables the children to develop their own interests, skills and strengths whilst also providing them with new challenges. Children feel safe to try new things.

The design of our curriculum ensures that the needs of individual and small groups of children can be met within the environment of high quality first wave teaching, supported by targeted, proven interventions where appropriate. This has a very positive impact on children's outcomes.

Rigorous assessment and tracking of children's performance takes place to inform classroom practice, allowing children to make good progress and close attainment gaps.

A high proportion of children participate in extra-curricular activities.

Subject Leaders are aware of the strengths and areas for improvement and use this information to produce purposeful action plans that continue to develop the curriculum offer.