




# WOODTHORNE CURRICULUM POLICY

## Document Control Table

<b>Title</b>	Woodthorne Curriculum Policy
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## Document History

<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Note of Revisions</b>
April 2021	TH	Adapted MAT policy specifically to Woodthorne.

## **Woodthorne Curriculum Policy**

Woodthorne's curriculum follows all the requirements of the National Curriculum but we are proud to offer a much broader curriculum than that, making the most of many and varied opportunities to broaden and enrich the curriculum for our children.

The National Curriculum provides the school with the outline of knowledge, skills and understanding that we are required to cover in school. We choose to teach much of this through creative, cross-curricular themes where children will learn different strands of the curriculum from a range of subjects, all within one common theme for a term.

This policy makes reference to The National Curriculum 2014.

We aim to teach our curriculum in an engaging, interesting and stimulating way primarily through a thematic approach which is tailored to the needs and intent of individual schools, classes and children. Our approach to the curriculum is through a knowledge and skills based approach.

The curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise across our schools in order to promote learning, personal growth and development. It includes not only the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, but also the range of extra-curricular activities that the school organises in order to enrich the experience of the children. It also includes that which the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave.

## **Values**

Our schools' curriculum is underpinned by the values that we hold dear at Woodthorne Primary School. The curriculum is the means by which we achieve our objectives of educating children in the knowledge, skills and understanding that they need in order to lead fulfilling lives.

## **Aims and Objectives**

The curriculum, whilst paying due regard to achieving high standards in English and Maths, is also broad, exciting and challenging and aims to develop the whole child

The aims of our schools' curriculum are:

- to show children respect as learners and individuals
- to enable all children to learn and develop their skills to the best of their ability
- to promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that children enjoy coming to school, and acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning
- to build upon children's natural curiosity for learning

- to provide children the basic skills of literacy, numeracy and science
- to provide children with the basic skills of computing and an understanding of how it will affect their lives
- to enable children to be creative and to develop their own thinking
- to enable children to recognise and utilise their own best learning style
- to enable children to reflect upon their own learning, what they need to do to improve and where they would like to take it further
- to teach children about their developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time
- to help children understand Britain's cultural heritage
- to enable children to be positive citizens in their community and wider society
- to reflect upon and understand their own religious beliefs and those of others
- to help children understand the importance of truth and fairness, so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all
- to provide all children with the opportunity to celebrate their successes
- to enable children to have respect for themselves and high self-esteem, and to be able to live and work co-operatively with others.

### **We do this by:**

- Providing a safe, fun, stimulating and challenging learning environment
- Providing accurate and helpful feedback on how well they are doing and what they need to do to improve
- Providing a cross-curricular themed, topic based approach in all year groups.
- Reflecting our high expectations through encouraging independent learning and self-discipline
- Establishing a mutually supportive partnership in which parents, carers, governors and staff share responsibility for the education of our children
- Promoting an awareness of and respect for a diversity of cultures, values, beliefs and abilities
- Working together to create a caring community of learners where every child feels safe and valued
- Ensuring that all children have appropriate and equal access to the curriculum
- Providing a stimulating and interesting termly homework project to promote learning in the home.
- Allowing pupils to participate in a variety of activities that enrich the curriculum. For example: visits, residential experiences, performances, sports and arts.

### **Organisation and Planning**

At Woodthorne, we plan our curriculum in two phases. We agree curriculum frameworks (long-term plan) for each Key Stage. This indicates what topics are to be taught in each term, and to which groups of children. We review our long-term plan on an annual basis. With our medium-term plans, we give clear guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies that we use when teaching each topic. Each

subject area has a curriculum map of the skills and knowledge to be covered in a particular area. Staff plan on a weekly basis for Mathematics and English. All curriculum maps are evaluated as skills are taught.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, staff plan the curriculum carefully, so that there is coherence and full coverage of all aspects of the early learning goals and their planned progression in all curriculum areas.

## **Children with Special Educational Needs**

The curriculum at is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend Woodthorne, adapting the curriculum to meet the needs of individual children, after consultation with parents.

We comply with the requirements set out in the SEN Code of Practice in providing for children with Special needs. Teachers make an assessment if a child displays signs of having special needs. In most instances the teacher is able to provide resources and educational opportunities which meet the child's needs within the normal class organisation. If a child's need is more severe, we consider the child for a statement of special needs, discuss with the parent/carer the possibility of seeking advice from the appropriate external agencies and undertake statutory assessment.

We provide additional resources and support for children with special needs. An Individual Education Plan (IEP), for each of the children who are on the SEND register or have a statement, will be produced to specifically target their individual needs. This sets out the nature of the special need and outlines how the schools will aim to address the need. It also sets out targets for improvement, so that we can review and monitor the progress of each child at regular intervals.

## **The Early Years Foundation Stage**

The curriculum that we teach in the Early Years classes meets the requirements set out in the revised Early Years Foundation Stage. Our curriculum planning focuses on the Early Learning Goals and on developing children's skills and experiences, as set out in this document.

We fully support the principle that young children learn through play and by engaging in well-planned structured activities. Teaching in the Early Years classes builds on the experiences of the children in their pre-school learning. We build positive partnerships through visits by the Foundation Stage teachers at local nursery schools and through other professional liaison.

During the Foundation Stage, the teachers make continual observations to record the children's progress. These assessments form an important part of the future curriculum planning for each child and are shared with staff, parents and carers and the Local Governing Boards.

We are well aware that all children need the support of parents and carers and teachers to make good progress in school. We strive to build positive links with the

families of each child by keeping them informed about their child's progress through the Learning Journey.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the leadership of the curriculum and for monitoring its provision. The Senior Leadership Team have responsibility for developing and updating the curriculum in line with the needs of the school and pupils' interests and ensuring, with the Headteacher, that the curriculum has appropriate coverage shows progression and is consistently monitored.

Curriculum coordinators, including the Senior Leadership Team, are responsible for ensuring the content and delivery of their subject, for monitoring provision, for keeping up to date with curriculum developments and providing or organising Inset where necessary. This will ensure that progress is tracked, challenge is appropriate and support and intervention is successfully directed.

The SENCO is responsible for the development of provision mapping and coordinating the work of support staff to achieve the best possible outcomes for individual pupils.

The Pupil Premium Champion is responsible for ensuring that all children are receiving the full curriculum and have the same opportunities as all other pupils.

Class teachers ensure that the curriculum is thoroughly planned, appropriately delivered and that the aims are achieved for their class. They regularly review and, if necessary, update medium-term plans.

The Local Governing Board monitor the success of the curriculum at committee level and at whole Governing Board meetings through the Leadership report to the Governors.