



Curriculum Policy

Introduction

At Cowling Primary School we follow the National Curriculum and strive to enrich the curriculum wherever possible. We enrich the National Curriculum using a range of resources including the topic based Lancashire Curriculum.

Our children are taught in classes, small groups or individually, according to their needs, within the framework of the National Curriculum. A variety of teaching styles are used in school, based on good practice and teachers continually reflect on their teaching. We are always seeking to innovate where appropriate, to maintain high standards and provide the best in primary school practice.

The aim, over the year, is to give each child a balanced and broad curriculum in relation to all subjects; inspiring them to want to find out more and allowing the children to develop a thirst for knowledge and understanding. 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 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 whilst developing knowledge and skills, so that they can achieve their true potential.

Our Vision

At Cowling Primary School our vision is that every child has a chance to shine.

Our School Aims

- Our school is an outward looking, inspirational, imaginative, exciting place to learn where children’s natural curiosity is stimulated.
- Our children become enthusiastic lifelong learners in a fun, safe and happy school environment.
- Our children are motivated, forward thinking, aspirational pupils.
- Our school strives for excellence, challenging all to achieve their full potential.
- Our children are healthy, confident and resilient individuals.
- Our children are friendly, trustworthy, respectful, caring and considerate to all.
- Our children value their physical and geographical heritage.

The above aims are part of our long term planning in each subject where they are used to drive the curriculum.

Curriculum Aims and Objectives

- 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 enable children to be creative and to develop their own thinking.



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- 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 society.
- To enable children to develop spiritually, morally and socially and to understand right from wrong.
- To help children understand the importance of truth and fairness, so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all.
- To enable children to have respect for themselves and high self-esteem and to be able to live and work co-operatively with others.

Organisation and Planning

Children are taught in classes, small groups or individually, according to their needs, within the framework of the National Curriculum. A variety of teaching styles are used in school, based on good practice. We recognise that teaching staff should constantly reflect upon whether their teaching methods match the needs of the children and the changes in economic, social and cultural climate.

Educational visits are undertaken wherever first hand experiences will benefit the children in their types of studies.

At Cowling Primary we operate the curriculum on a three year rolling programme. The Cowling rolling programme follows a half-termly theme based around a lead subject either science, geography, history, art and design, DT or music.

Medium/Short Term Planning is where we give clear guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies that we are going to use for each topic, as well as resources needed and activities planned to achieve the objectives. Teachers should constantly ask "Why do my children need to know this?" and make content relevant to pupils. Teachers must ensure that the aims and programmes of study are incorporated into planning and they should plan beyond the expectations of the National Curriculum to enrich learning.

Teachers should strive to ensure lessons follow the 80:20 rule, to ensure that children show high levels of productivity. Teachers should strive to establish "learning without lessons" areas eg displays to prompt thinking and extend opportunities for learning outside lessons.

Maths and English

We provide a daily structured lesson in Maths and follow a mastery approach. In Maths there is a strong focus on developing oral and mental skills and applying the skills they have learnt in problem solving activities. In English we link together regularly the skills of Reading and Writing and actively encourage the children to develop their Speaking and Listening Skills, where they can develop their own self-confidence. We understand that Writing, Reading and Mathematical skills are required across the curriculum and we provide a variety of opportunities for children to practice these skills in a variety of subjects.



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Science

We encourage all children to carry out investigations in Science and children are encouraged to ask questions and where appropriate to seek answers out for themselves. They use a variety of books, ICT resources and the Internet to add to their own scientific knowledge. We follow the North Yorkshire Scheme of work to support our planning.

MFL

French is taught weekly to children in Key Stage 2 and we benefit from specialist secondary support from South Craven School.

Religious Education

Our school follows the North Yorkshire agreed syllabus for R.E. Our curriculum promotes an understanding of different faiths and beliefs. We strive to incorporate visits to a variety of places of worship and to bring in guest speakers to enrich the curriculum.

Art/History/Geography/D.T.

These subjects are taught with a themed approach and the focus is firmly on developing the skills they need in each subject. Opportunities are planned for enriching the curriculum through visitors and visits.

Computing

Children learn to use a computer with confidence, skill and enjoyment. They will develop a wide range of skills to enable them to become competent and safe in the world of computing.

Music

We encourage all children to become actively involved in a variety of musical activities where they can experience the excitement and joy of performing. They will all be given opportunities to develop their skills such as listening and responding to music, acquiring a basic knowledge of the elements of music, as well as being offered other extra-curricular activities. We have a thriving school choir who take part in various concerts and festivals and children are offered other tuition through the peripatetic music service.

Physical Education

Children will develop a wide range of skills in all the main areas; they will be encouraged to understand the importance and benefits of taking part in physical activity and to appreciate skilful and creative performance. All children will understand the importance of being part of a team, as well as developing their individual skills. In addition, specialist teachers work in school as part of the link with our local Secondary School and we take part in a variety of inter school tournaments.



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Children are offered the opportunity to take part in a variety of extra-curricular clubs including fencing, dance, canoeing, games and cheerleading. We hold an annual residential visit for Year 5/6, where there is a strong focus on Outdoor and Adventurous activities and all our reception children attend the local outdoor centre on a Friday afternoon. During the Autumn and Spring Term children in Years 3 and 4 swim weekly.

PHSCE

Our PHSCE curriculum follows 6 themes: Keeping Myself Safe, Me and My Relationships, My Healthy Lifestyle, Me and My Future, Becoming an Active Citizen and Moving On.

Maths, English and Computing skills should be applied in other areas wherever possible.

Children with Special Needs

Our curriculum is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend the school. If we think it is necessary to adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of an individual child, then we do so only after the parents of the child have been consulted. If a child has a special need, our school does all it can to meet these individual needs. We comply with the requirements set out in the SEND code of practice in providing for children with special needs and an assessment is made if a child displays signs of having a special need. In most instances the teacher is able to provide resources and educational opportunities which meets the child's needs within the normal classroom organisation. If a child's needs are more severe then we involve the appropriate external agencies. Some children with special educational needs are provided with an Individual Provision Map. This sets out the nature of the special need, any barriers to learning and outlines how the school will 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. Intervention programmes are also set up for children who are assessed as needing support at Pupil Progress Meetings.

EYFS

EYFS is based on the Development Matters statements. The curriculum is split into four specific: Literacy, Mathematical Development, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design and three prime areas: Physical Development, Communication and Language and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. Children should have a good understanding of the prime areas before covering the specific areas. All areas are covered and planned for using Child Led Themes and all areas are assessed every term.



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Assessment

Assessments in Maths and English are carried out termly, using a variety of means. Children are then identified during Pupil Progress Meetings who require more support during the next term. We use our knowledge of the primary curriculum to assess where children are in foundation subjects and develop next steps.

The Role of the Subject Leader

The role of the subject leader is to:-

- Provide a strategic lead and direction for their subject, have a vision for their subject.
- Support and offer advice to colleagues on issues related to the subject.
- Promoting their subject and devising action plans.
- Monitor pupil progress in that subject area.
- Look at and evaluate the curriculum provision and coverage for their subject.
- Monitor teaching and learning in their subject.

It is the role of the subject leader to keep up to date with developments in their subject. They review their subject and plan for improvement. This development planning links to whole school objectives. English, Maths and EYFS will be monitored yearly, with a main focus in the Autumn Term, although monitoring of these subjects will take place throughout the year. The other subjects will be monitored on a two year rolling programme.

Date – September 2017