



Gilthill Primary School

Curriculum Design Statement: intent, implementation, impact.

Intent

Our curriculum is designed to support our whole school vision, where we aspire to:

'To inspire today's children to embrace tomorrow's challenges.'

To achieve this, we have designed our curriculum around three main aims:

- 1) To develop excellent communication skills which allow our children to adapt to new situations, share their ideas and emotions and become active, motivated learners who can see all the possibilities which could be in front of them.
- 2) To embed our Gilthill learning values to create a positive learning environment that enhances academic achievement and develops students' social and relationship skills that last throughout their lives and prepares them for future challenges.
- 3) To provide a coherent and structured curriculum that has breadth of knowledge which is pertinent to our pupils and leads to sustained acquisition of relevant knowledge, skills and understanding of the world around them and the changing society in which we live.

1. Communication

Our one main curriculum driver is communication. This shapes our curriculum and drives the vision for our school by responding to the needs of our pupils' and creating an environment where we value ideas, foster collaboration and promote the development of language skills.

We believe good communicators interact with others and work well in a team. They investigate by making connections, asking questions, being curious, researching information, finding evidence and applying skills and experiences. We provide opportunities for the children to become collaborative problem-solvers through the development of oracy. This allows our children to learn through talk and by talk, giving them the skills they need to communicate their ideas and emotions effectively through physical, linguistic, social and emotional and cognitive oracy development.

2. Learning Values

We believe children should be taught in an atmosphere of warmth and support that fosters a love of learning and a desire to succeed. We aim to develop good learners through our key values of Ready, Respectful and Safe. From these, we have identified the values we feel children need to develop as confident and responsible citizens of the future; children who are physically and mentally healthy, independent, self - confident and have respect and empathy for others. These values are shared and celebrated and incorporated into our everyday life at school.

3. A coherently planned curriculum

Underpinned by our driver, our curriculum sets out to:

- a) Map our key learning values and demonstrate how these link to our daily learning.
- b) Identify learning threads for each subject area. These set out the progression of the key concepts and skills our pupils should understand at the end of each phase. Knowledge

categories help to build a schema to support connections and links in learning to aid long term memory retention.

- c) Curriculum content maps highlighting our learning themes and the key knowledge in each subject area in a two-yearly cycle. This ensures coherence and coverage and allows children to build on their prior knowledge as they move through the school.
- d) Our bespoke oracy framework highlights the progression of oracy skills throughout school. These complement our learning threads and curriculum content maps to ensure oracy is embedded in our curriculum and supports the development of skills and knowledge retention.

Implementation

Our learning themes are mapped on a two-yearly cycle. This ensures key concepts and knowledge enter pupils' long-term memory through building on prior learning and making links across the curriculum. We believe that retrieval of previously learned content should be frequent and regular, which increases both storage and retrieval strength. Oracy is used to strengthen and develop our learners' ability to acquire and retain new knowledge and deepen understanding. Our curriculum is newly designed and implementation is still at an early stage. Further training has been planned to facilitate our journey and ensure successful implementation and accurate assessment of our learning themes.

Impact

The impact of our curriculum is that by the end of each phase the vast majority of pupils will remember and are fluent in the content of our learning threads and the key knowledge highlighted in our curriculum content maps. Some pupils will have a greater depth of understanding. We track carefully to ensure our pupils are on track to reach the expectations of our curriculum. Implementation will be monitored carefully throughout the year to ensure our curriculum is having the impact outlined.

End point

By the time our children leave our school we aim to have developed their ability to communicate their learning and emotions effectively, have a thirst for learning and an understanding of what makes us good learners. This will give our children aspirations for the future and the tools to embrace any challenges with confidence and resilience.