

School Improvement Priorities 2017-18

Each year the leadership team, in consultation with the Governing Board, agree a number of whole school priorities. These focus on improving the outcomes for all children in school and staff meetings and Inset Days are used for staff development in these areas. Individual staff members may also attend courses and training sessions or work with staff in other schools on our chosen areas.

Below is a summary of the areas for the school year 2017-18

PRIORITY ONE : Reading

Aim: To raise the profile of reading and encourage a love of reading in order to improve standards in reading for all children in school

The following is a summary of what we are aiming to achieve with reading this year -

- An increasing number of children will meet at least the expected standard in reading for their year group and at the end of F2, Y1 Phonics, Y2 and Y6 school outcomes will at least meet the national outcomes
- Children will be enthusiastic about their reading and through a range of initiatives will enjoy reading a wide variety of texts – fiction and non fiction
- Parents will be encouraged to support their child's reading at home and will be invited to attend workshops and curriculum weeks to join with reading activities in school
- Children will demonstrate that they can read with understanding and develop higher order reading skills appropriate to their age
- The quality of language the children use in their writing will improve as a result of reading quality reading materials
- The newly purchased reading comprehension materials will be used in Y1 to Y6 on a daily basis to develop children's reading and comprehension skills

PRIORITY TWO : Writing

Aim: To raise standards in writing in all year groups so that children meet their full potential with the majority of children meeting age related national expectations

The following is a summary of what we are aiming to achieve with writing this year -

- An increasing number of children will meet at least the expected standard in writing for their year group and at the end of F2, Y1 Phonics, Y2 and Y6 school outcomes will at least meet the national outcomes
- Children will be aware of the expectations in writing for the end of each year group; this will be adapted into child speak and will also be shared with parents at the first and subsequent open evenings
- Writing lessons will be planned and taught so that spelling and grammar is an essential part of daily writing lessons and children will apply their grammar skills into their own writing
- Children will be undertaking a SPAG activity each morning [for their morning work as they arrive in school] to ensure that skills are embedded at an age appropriate level and this will impact on their independent writing across the curriculum
- Children will know which resources they can use to support their independent writing. Teachers will be explicit in their teaching, to show and remind children of the resources they can use and model using them when teaching writing.
- Marking and feedback –
 - Teachers will be aware of what to mark and feedback on in any piece of writing so that children are not overwhelmed and can act on the feedback to improve their writing
 - Teachers will make sure that children correct work eg spellings and punctuation – not just for the current year group but for the expectations of all previous year groups

- Children will be able to spell the year specific words for their year group. A new daily spelling programme will be introduced in September 2017 for year's two to six. The Foundation and Year One children will continue to follow the phonics program.

PRIORITY THREE : Numeracy [with a focus on reasoning and times tables]

Aim: To build on the good progress made this year in calculation which saw outcomes increase at the end of 2017 in Y2 and Y6 and to improve further the percentage of children achieving expected or above in maths with a specific focus on reasoning

The following is a summary of what we are aiming to achieve with maths this year -

- An increased percentage of children will achieve expected or above in maths in F2, Y2 and Y6 with the children in all year groups being on track to meet these expectations
- Teachers will provide high quality, detailed modelling of problems in daily maths lessons
- Teachers will model the language of problem solving to promote understanding of problem solving for all children
- Problem solving will feature in morning maths and homework
- All classes will have quality maths resources and a maths help desk which is kept up to date with the current maths focus
- Children will not be worried if they get an answer or part of an answer wrong and will understand that this is often when the best learning takes place
- Parents will be invited to a curriculum maths week where problem solving will be the focus
- Learning their times tables will be a focus and will be included in homework for children from KS1 upwards

PRIORITY FOUR : Assessment

Aim: To implement and use a new tracking system for F2 to Y6 which will be closely aligned to national expectations so that all teachers are clear about current attainment and the progress which children need to make to meet national expectations in any given year group.

- A new whole school tracking system is being implemented from the beginning of September which will be closely aligned to national expectations in the core subjects

PRIORITY FIVE : Art

Aim: To teach the skills of art so that there is progression within and between each year group, with a particular focus on observational skills

The following is a summary of what we are aiming to achieve with art this year -

- Children will be able draw confidently and adventurously from observation, memory and imagination
- Children will be able to use a range of tools skilfully, eg pencils of varying thicknesses, paint brushes of varying thicknesses, and tools used in textiles and modelling eg clay
- Children will produce pieces of artwork which show independent application of the skills, initiative, originality and develops their creativity
- Children will use their experiences and ideas to inspire their art work. They will sketch during off site visits and develop this work when they are back in school and apply to further art work eg they might paint a picture using their sketch and experience from the visit
- Children will be able to evaluate their art work for example they might improve a sketch completed on an off site visit, or re visit or work on a painting over a number of sessions developing their resilience as an artist

PRIORITY SIX : Respect for everyone in the school community
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Aim: To promote good relationships between all children and all adults in school so that there is a positive atmosphere in which all children can achieve their full potential

The following is a summary of what we are aiming to achieve to make sure that there is a positive atmosphere in school this year –

- All children will be able to learn and achieve their full potential academically
- All teachers will be able to teach in calm, purposeful, classrooms
- Everyone will feel safe, happy and secure both in the classroom and in the outside areas
- All children and adults will behave in a considerate way showing mutual trust and respect for all
- All adults will have the same high expectations for all children
- Children will respect the adults and follow the school rules
- The older children will be good role models for the younger children in school

Thank you to all our parents for their support during the school year, we really appreciate your interest in your child's education; I hope you will be able to join in with the curriculum weeks during 2017-18 which will show parents the work we are undertaking to meet our current school priorities.

Mrs S Mellor

Head Teacher