

Welcome to
our Parents' Meeting on the
New National Curriculum

Aims of the session

- To examine the changes in the 2014 National Curriculum and communicate how we have, as a school, started to deliver it

The New 2014 National Curriculum

- 1988 – Education Reform Act brought in the first National Curriculum (along with GCSEs)
- 2014 - Curriculum focuses on Excellence and Core Skills and is more knowledge based
- Includes more ambitious end of year/phase expectations
- Do we have to follow it? Yes, it is statutory for all maintained primary and secondary schools

What does a Curriculum have to be?

- Balanced and broadly based
- A spiral; to enable children to come back to aspects therefore gaining a greater depth of understanding
- Promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development
- Prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life

Why the Change?

- To raise standards
- To be more challenging and rigorous
- To be more competitive internationally

National Curriculum Tests will be revised for Year 2 and Year 6 for the Summer of 2016 to reflect the changes to the New National Curriculum

Literacy

- Stronger emphasis on **vocabulary development, grammar, punctuation and spelling** (for example, the use of commas and apostrophes are now taught in Key Stage 1)
- **Handwriting** (not currently assessed under the previous national curriculum) is expected to be fluent, legible and speedy
- **Spoken English** has a greater emphasis, with children to be taught debating and presenting skills as well as reciting poetry

Maths

- **Five-year-olds are expected to learn to count up to 100** (compared to 20 under the previous curriculum) and learn **number bonds to 20** (previously up to 10)
- **Simple fractions ($\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$) are taught from Key Stage 1**, and by the end of primary school, children should be able to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions (e.g. $0.375 = \frac{3}{8}$)
- By the age of nine, children are expected to know **times tables up to 12×12** (previously 10×10 by the end of primary school)
- Calculators are not be introduced until near the end of KS2, to encourage mental arithmetic

Science

- Strong **focus on scientific knowledge and language**, rather than understanding the nature and methods of science in abstract terms
- Evolution is introduced in primary schools for the first time
- Some topics are introduced earlier in Key Stage 2

ICT

- Computing replaces ICT (Information and Communication Technology), with a **greater focus on programming rather than on operating programs**
- From age five, children learn to write and test simple programs and to organise, store and retrieve data
- From age seven, they are taught to understand computer networks, including the internet
- Internet safety is taught in both key stages

Religious Education

We continue to follow the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus as recommended by the Diocese of Chichester.

Citizenship and Personal, Social and Health Education as well as British Values are integrated into our R.E. scheme of work.

Languages

A modern foreign language or ancient language (Latin or Greek) is statutory in Key Stage 2. Children will be expected to master basic grammar and accurate pronunciation and to speak, present, read and write in the language.

French is taught at St Wilfrid's from Year 1 to Year 6.

Geography and History

- Reduced emphasis on investigative geography but increased emphasis on geographical knowledge i.e. countries, maps
- Greater emphasis on ancient history in Key Stage 2

Music and Physical Education

- Focus in Key Stage 1 on experimentation with voice, tuned and untuned instruments
- Key Stage 2 includes an understanding of the history of music
- Key Stage 1 focus on mastering basic skills and playing in teams
- Key Stage 2 includes learning discrete skills and using them in the context of team games and competition
- Swimming remains statutory in Key Stage 2