

# The Woodlands Community Primary School

## Curriculum statement

### Big ideas



#### Humankind

Understanding what it means to be human and how human behaviour has shaped the world.



#### Nature

Understanding the complexities of the plant and animal species that inhabit the world.



#### Processes

Understanding the many dynamic and physical processes that shape the world.



#### Place

Understanding the visual, cultural, social, and environmental aspects of places around the world.



#### Creativity

Understanding the creative process and how everyday and exceptional creativity can shape the world.



#### Comparison

Understanding how and why things are the same or different.



#### Investigation

Understanding the importance of investigation and how this has led to significant change in the world.



#### Significance

Understanding why significant people, places, events and inventions matter and how they have shaped the world.



#### Materials

Understanding the properties of all matter, living and non-living.



#### Change

Understanding why and how things have changed over time.

### ☆ General principles

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- develop new skills through a variety of interesting contexts
- understand the purpose and value of their learning and see its relevance to their past, present and future
- develop a rich and deep subject knowledge

## ☆ General principles

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- experience the challenge and enjoyment of learning
- develop and demonstrate their creativity
- see clear links between different aspects of their learning
- learn within a coherent and progressive framework
- explore the breadth and depth of the national curriculum

### Purpose

Our fundamental principles at Woodlands are to live, learn and grow together. We believe that children will learn best when they are happy. We believe in delivering the National Curriculum through a broad and balanced range of subjects, with children making links across the different curriculum areas. We believe in providing varied and meaningful opportunities to learn in a range of contexts and environments; children should be able to see how current learning builds upon prior learning and lays firm foundations for future learning.

As such, we believe in a progressive and effectively sequenced curriculum which is pupil-led so children can explore, enquire and investigate.

## SMSC/FBV

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- Democracy - Be part of a system where everyone plays an equal part
- Tolerance and respect - To respect and tolerate the opinions or behaviour of others
- Individual liberty - Be free to express views or ideas
- Rule of law - Learn that all people and institutions are subject to and accountable for their actions and behaviour
- Moral - Recognise right and wrong and respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues and offer reasoned views
- Cultural - Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity
- Social - Use a range of social skills to participate in the local community and beyond; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- Spiritual - Explore beliefs, experience and faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity and reflect on experiences

## Purpose

Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education (SMSC) and Fundamental British Values (FBV).

At Woodlands we believe in developing the whole child and preparing them to make positive contributions to their communities and wider society. We do this by embedding opportunities within our curriculum to experience a social, moral, spiritual and cultural education and to learn about the fundamental British values that underpin the country where we live.

At Woodlands we believe in developing character, citizenship and a sense of community. We believe in instilling fundamental British values, a keen sense of equality, kindness and justice. Our intent is to provide varied opportunities for children to learn about faiths, cultures and communities beyond their own and to have an active participation in society.

At Woodlands we have integrated the Commando Joe's character education into our wider curriculum. As part of this, we believe in the following RESPECT values and attributes and seek to embed them through our curriculum and our school ethos: Resilience, Empathy, Self-Awareness, Passion, Excellence, Communication, Team-work

## ✓ Well-being

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- build respectful friendships
- work in a range of groups and settings
- recognise that people are good at different things
- reflect and think mindfully about their learning
- follow their own interests and be themselves
- learn how to respect themselves and others
- learn in a peaceful and supportive environment
- develop self-esteem and confidence in their abilities

## Purpose

At Woodlands we believe in educating the whole child, providing a curriculum which will meet not only their academic requirements but their social and emotional needs also.

We follow the principles of Emotion Coaching in our interactions between all members of the school community; children can articulate their emotions, empathise with others and acknowledge the effects their actions can have upon others.

Our curriculum allows the children varied opportunities to learn individually and collaborate with others, building confidence and self-esteem and equipping them with communication skills needed in life.

## Pupil voice

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- make a positive contribution to the school and local community
- express their opinions on a range of different topics and issues
- contribute to planning their own learning
- explore ways of becoming an active citizen
- take part in age-appropriate discussions
- take part in democratic activities across the curriculum
- say what they like and dislike about their learning
- make choices about things that are important to them

## Purpose

At Woodlands, we believe it is essential that our children have an active voice in how their school functions.

Through our Junior Leadership Team (JLT), our children are consulted regularly on key school matters including the curriculum. Pupil leadership is a central feature of our school structure. Children vote for their House Leaders, Class Leaders and Eco Leaders in annual elections.

Through our curriculum, children are provided with opportunities to share opinions, express ideas and participate in debates. Children are encouraged to reflect on their own learning and take part in self-assessment. Our children know and understand that they will be listened to when they share their thoughts and that they do the same for others.

We encourage our children to reflect on their prior learning and articulate verbally its links to current learning. Teachers and leaders regularly talk with the children about their learning: the knowledge and skills they have gained and the aspects that they have enjoyed.

Our curriculum teaches children the importance of effective communication and equips them with the skills to do so.

## Pedagogy

Our curriculum will be taught through a pedagogy that:

- excites, promotes and sustains children's interest
- promotes problem solving, creativity and communication
- enables and fosters children's natural curiosity
- enables children to reflect on and evaluate their learning
- promotes innovation and entrepreneurialism
- offers all children a memorable experience at the start of every topic

## Purpose

Pedagogy - the science behind learning and the strategies we use to enable learning:

At Woodlands we believe that our children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, matched to their needs, which is: meaningful, challenging and progressive.

We believe learning should be engaging and enjoyable and take many forms; equipping children with the necessary knowledge and skills and allowing opportunities for exploration and investigation. Our teaching should excite and enthuse the children, providing effective modelling of skills and strategies for the children to then master themselves through application in a range of contexts.

## Enrichment

We will enrich our curriculum by:

- offering opportunities for children to learn outdoors
- using quality resources in and out of the classroom
- welcoming parents and carers to take part in children's learning and experiences



## Enrichment

We will enrich our curriculum by:

- providing on and off-site subject or topic related activities
- holding specialist curriculum days or weeks
- developing partnerships with external providers that extend children's opportunities for learning

### Purpose

At Woodlands our intent is that our curriculum extends beyond the classroom.

We launch each topic with memorable experiences including themed days, welcoming visitors for workshops or visiting other locations. As a Forest School, we regularly take our learning outdoors, carrying out activities and learning practical skills which cannot be facilitated within the confines of a classroom.

Each term at Woodlands, we have specialist themed weeks to broaden our learning and make links between subject areas.

Educational visits are a central part of our curriculum; our Y6 pupils are also provided with a week-long residential to learn a range of skills and to aid transition to their secondary education.

Parents are regularly invited to join in our learning through class assemblies, family lunch and learning days and on forest days.