

## Our Curriculum Offer

At Brockholes Wood Primary School we aim to have a personalised, inspiring, integrated but flexible curriculum. It is the flexibility that allows us to be responsive to the interests of our children and make links to other curriculum areas when they are meaningful to do so. It is paramount that the children learn about their local area and this is a huge part of our curriculum intent, as well as providing the children with a huge range of enriching learning experiences. Underpinning our integrated learning journey is a set of core values: Respect, Kindness, Honesty, Resilience and Determination.

In the teaching of English, each year group uses a range of high quality texts, films, pictures and other stimuli to engage children in their learning. These stimuli may be used for up to a half term, from which a broad range of genre and text-types can be covered. Where these texts link to a topic, the English is taught as part of the topic. Where it does not link, the English forms a mini-topic of its own, running alongside the class topic. Grammar and punctuation are taught through and outside of the texts as a regular part of the weekly planning. A key element of English is Phonics in EYFS and KS1. We use ELS (Essential Letters and Sounds) as our scheme for this which is having significant impact on attainment.

Children are encouraged to write for pleasure, at length and in one book so that standards of written English are maintained across subjects. Charts, tables and diagrams are made in a ‘topic’ book that accompanies the one writing book. There is a maths book that is used for recording reasoning and problem solving questions or to challenge children further, but there is also an emphasis on practical approaches to learning with practical outcomes.

In the teaching of Foundation subjects, each year group bases the learning around a common theme/topic with a particular area of focus, for example history, geography, art etc. Where a particular subject does not link to the topic, this will be taught discretely each half term. The children are provided with a range of enrichment experiences e.g. trips out, visitors in, using the local.

In the teaching of maths, we use White Rose across school from EYFS to Year 6. We use a concrete, pictorial and abstract approach to the teaching and learning of maths but we also place great emphasis on fluency and reasoning and problem solving. Children are always encouraged to deepen their learning by spotting patterns and being able to justify their answers.

The curriculum is designed to take account of children’s interests, so not only are they involved in shaping the topics, but there is also time for a diversion where a planned unit can be covered in less depth, in order to accommodate this.

Children are encouraged to be independent learners and creative and critical thinkers.

The curriculum includes the formal programme of lessons, the extra-curricular activities, the climate of relationships and the positive ethos i.e. the attitudes, values and behaviour promoted by the school community as a whole, with an emphasis on life-long learning.

Brockholes Wood has developed an enriched curriculum that is relevant and stimulating offering the children a range of experiences and catering for individual learning styles. We use myHappyMind as a whole school approach to mental health and well-being which supports their understanding of appropriate behaviour and gives a deeper understanding of how to regulate their emotions when they need to.

Children who are four and under, follow the Early Years Curriculum whereas the rest of the school follow the National Curriculum 2014 which encompasses the following areas:  
Core Subjects - English, Maths, Science Non-Core Subjects - Art & Design, Computing, Design Technology, History, Geography, Music, PE and at KS2 Modern Foreign Language (French), PSHE and RE.

Curriculum 2014 is divided into year group expectations. National tests are taken at the beginning of Reception these are called Baseline Assessments and at the end of Key Stage 2 in reading, writing, mathematics and spelling, grammar and punctuation. A scaled score will be achieved, the national expectation being 100 for most 11 year olds.

For further information, please contact the school office.