



"Where children come first"

Curriculum Overview

2017 /18

Mission Statement

'Our vision is to develop confident young people with active and creative minds who have compassion and understanding for others'.

The Curriculum

Teaching and learning is the core purpose of our work in school. It is the method through which we offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced and which meets the Government's legal requirements relating to the National Curriculum whilst catering for the interests and needs of all our pupils. It is a process which is constantly developing and which reflects the changing needs of society.

Rationale

The Staff and Governors of Monksdown Primary School aim to tailor education to individual need, interest and aptitude so as to fulfil every child's potential. Every pupil will have access to a rich, broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum. It is used to increase pupil's knowledge, skills and understanding as they grow and develop and become more aware of the world around them. Our curriculum is enhanced by a vast range of exciting and informative visits and visitors, including our Year 6 residential trip to Coniston Water Park.

It is carefully planned and structured, to ensure that learning is continuous, and that pupils make good progress, achieving good standards in English and Maths. At Monksdown Primary School we strongly believe that it's our responsibility to prepare our pupils with the skills and attitudes that will help them become successful, happy and confident independent learners. We do this by providing rich and varied learning experiences which helps develop their skills and abilities, enabling them to lead happy and rewarding lives and become responsible future citizens.

As a school we feel that we should not only to cover the National Curriculum but also develop skills and values that are particular to our children. Our school values encourage the pupils to be: Responsible, Resilient, Respectful and Resourceful; these ideals are central to our school ethos. We are working with our pupils to develop a collective understanding of our school values and a vision to prepare them for the future.

Aims of the curriculum

- To provide equality of opportunity for all
- To create a stimulating and dynamic environment in which individuals feel happy and safe
- To develop spiritual awareness and a sense of awe and wonder
- To place team work at the heart of everything we do
- To value creativity, individuality and initiative
- To provide a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum which meets the needs of individuals
- To encourage and welcome the wider community into the daily life of the school

How do we plan the curriculum?

Nursery and Reception classes are taught within the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

- The National Curriculum subjects are planned across age phases from Year 1 to Year 6.
- All year group teaching teams use either the Early Years Foundation Stage framework or the National Curriculum to plan appropriate learning experiences.
- Weekly planning is completed by year group teams to ensure progression and continuity. Learning objectives build on prior attainment and progress.
- Themes are used to deliver the curriculum objectives in a creative and relevant format.
- Themes are planned alongside the pupils to ensure they are invested in forthcoming learning experiences.
- Lessons are delivered in a cross-curricular way where appropriate to enable children to use the skills they learn in other subject areas.
- First hand learning activities, including educational visits and visitors, are used to ensure the children are engaged in effective and dynamic learning.

Our curriculum is constantly evolving in response to the needs and interests of our children – for the most current picture of what our pupils are learning, please visit the Year Group pages on our website and class Twitter feeds. These include regular snapshots of daily learning, current Curriculum Maps showing foci across all curriculum subjects and suggested resources for parents to support learning.

HOME LEARNING

Home Learning arrangements are detailed in the school's Guidance which can be found on Monksdown Primary School website.

Home learning will be set for your child by their teacher, to be returned by the following week, and will seek to:

- Enable children to further develop skills learned in the classroom
- Help them take increasing responsibility for their learning
- To provide opportunities for parents and carers to engage in their child's learning

HOME SCHOOL LINKS

Parents' Evenings

Our Parents' Evenings take place in the Autumn and Spring terms. At each of these you have the opportunity to discuss your child's targets, progress and personal and social development. There is also the opportunity, in the Spring and Summer terms, for you to see your child's work and discuss this with their class teacher.

Please do not think this is the only opportunity to discuss your child. We are always willing to arrange a mutually convenient time for an appointment to discuss any concerns you may have.

Open Afternoon

During the Summer Term we invite parents and children into school to share and celebrate the year's achievements. Parents have an opportunity to meet informally with their child's class teacher and view their child's work.

Website and Twitter

The website, ParentApp and Twitter feeds are showcases for children's work and are the best way to keep upto-date with what your child is learning in school. They also provide important information from your child's year group team and will outline recent highlights and any forthcoming dates for your diary.

Reports

Annual Reports are sent home towards the end of the Summer Term. These provide a comprehensive overview of your child's progress. Please feel free however, to make an appointment if there is anything you would like to discuss.