

SCAWSBY SALTERSGATE INFANT SCHOOL



Curriculum Policy

Policy Approved by Governors	April 2024
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At Saltersgate Infant School, we are committed to providing a world-class education for our pupils, and we recognise that a rich and relevant curriculum is fundamental to this. Our curriculum is therefore designed to maximise pupils' life chances utilising a pupil-centred approach, using pupils' needs and lived experiences as its starting point. We provide an environment where;

- Quality teaching and learning come first
- Hard work and positive achievements are always praised
- Very high standards of behaviour are expected
- Staff, children, parents and Governors all work together
- Visitors are welcomed
- There is a calm, orderly and purposeful atmosphere
- Children and adults respect and care for each other.

Introduction:

The curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise at Saltersgate Infant School in order to promote learning and personal growth and development. It includes not only the requirements of the National Curriculum and the Early Years Foundation Stage, but also the range of extra-curricular activities that we organise in order to enrich the experience of our children. It also includes the values and beliefs that the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave. We aim to teach the children how to grow into positive, socially responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others whilst developing knowledge and skills, so that they can achieve to their true potential. Through our curriculum, it is our intension to raise standards of attainment by focusing teaching and learning on the aptitudes and interests of our children, making learning exciting and engaging and removing any barriers to learning.

Values:

Our curriculum is underpinned by the values of our school:

- We value each child, each being unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures
- We value spiritual and moral development alongside intellectual and physical growth
- We value and respect each child in our school for who they are and treat them with respect, fairness and honesty
- We aim for each individual to be successful and thus provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school
- We value each person in our community and aspire to promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community through our curriculum
- We value our learning environment and aim to teach children to be responsible for our school and locality, the things and the people within it.

Aims:

Through offering a broad, balanced, creative and challenging curriculum, our children will be supported to:

Saltersgate Infant School Curriculum

Our school curriculum is based around the National Curriculum 2014 for KS1 and the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum for Early Years. To support the teaching and learning process, we teach our children values and standards of behaviour through a set of Golden Rules which are well established and understood. We teach our children to be good, independent, resilient and effective learners through our Characteristics of Effective Learning. These become lifelong learners. We ensure that these rules and characteristics underpin our curriculum.

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum puts the child at the centre of our caring, sharing, achieving school, where positive relationships, based on mutual trust and respect are at the heart of everything we do. Our ambitious curriculum has been designed to take account of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and the Primary National Curriculum. It exposes our children to enriching experiences, immersing them in progressive knowledge and skills; equipping them with personal characteristics required to succeed in life. The creative and performing arts are pivotal to our curriculum delivery and ensure that our children are immersed in vibrant experiences, allowing each of them to express themselves as an individual.

The key principles behind the design of our curriculum are for our children to:

- Be confident, independent and resilient; displaying a thirst for learning
- Be kind; showing empathy and compassion whilst valuing diversity
- Establish a healthy lifestyle
- Understand how to keep themselves safe
- Enjoy their learning and achieve their potential
- Develop an age appropriate understanding of economic wellbeing
- Develop lively, enquiring minds
- Develop a positive attitude to learning as a basis for lifelong learning
- Be able to question, discuss and make choices as independent learners, understanding right from wrong
- Acquire a good level skill in literacy, numeracy and ICT, as well as develop their knowledge and understanding of the world around them
- Recognise and appreciate their own achievements and those of others
- Develop creativity and curiosity in their learning

- Understand the importance of truth and fairness, and the difference between right and wrong so that they may be good, responsible citizens within society
- Be culturally knowledgeable about our country and our world
- Have aspirations for the future and know that these can be reached through hard work and determination

Ultimately, we want all of our children, to be the best they can be, making a positive contribution to the world they live in including their local community.

Curriculum Implementation

Children are expected to work hard and demonstrate positive learning behaviours to both maximise their own individual learning potential as well as contribute to the school and wider community. Our Golden Rules and our Golden and Super Citizen systems allow us to reward the behaviours we strive to develop. We have high expectations of attendance, academic achievement and pupil behaviour. We are committed to working in partnership with parents as we believe that when home and school work closely together we get the best outcomes for our pupils.

PSHE lies at the heart of the curriculum we deliver to closely meet the needs of our pupils. Our PSHE framework, focusing on well-being, positive self-awareness, relationships and the wider world. Our pupils have access to a wide range of opportunities which promote personal safety and pupil voice with all children being actively involved in whole school decision making through the School Council and many positions of responsibility. Our curriculum recognises the importance of pupils' physical and mental well-being in shaping their long term life-style choices.

We believe that our fundamental task is to teach our children to speak clearly and articulately and to read and write effectively. Oracy and Reading across all curriculum areas is a priority to extend and deepen pupils understanding and use of vocabulary. We want pupils to develop a love of reading during their time at Saltersgate and be exposed to a range of classic and contemporary literature. The use of the school library and class shared texts are pivotal to this.

In order to raise aspirations and equip our children with a real belief that they can achieve anything if they are prepared to work hard, it is imperative that we prioritise experiential learning within our curriculum, and as such, have an Enrichment Curriculum that supports this. Visitors are regularly invited into school, educational and residential visits are carefully chosen to deepen understanding and we make the most of our beautiful outdoor learning environment to enhance hands-on learning experiences.

Continuing Professional Development for all staff is a priority to ensure they have the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver the highest standards across the entire curriculum. Subject Leaders have the necessary expertise to play a pivotal role in both the design and delivery of their subject area; ensuring a clear progression of both skills and knowledge across all year groups, underpinned by a robust assessment system. They can confidently

articulate how learning is re-visited and developed year-on-year, to ensure a real depth of learning right across the school.

Curriculum Impact

- Our children demonstrate confidence, independence, resilience and a real thirst for learning.
- Our children are able to form meaningful relationships based upon mutual respect and trust, recognising and celebrating difference, not only within the school community but in the wider world as well.
- Our children have access to a wide and varied curriculum, allowing each of them to excel as individuals and be the best they can be.
- Our children achieve at least the expected standard across the entire curriculum by the end of Key Stage Two.
- Our children are well prepared to access the challenges of the secondary school curriculum.
- Our children have aspirations for the future and know that these can be realised with hard work and determination.
- Our children grow up being able to make a positive contribution to the world in which they live.

Principles of Curriculum at Saltersgate Infant School

- The curriculum will be engaging and exciting. Teachers will plan lessons which aim to enhance and develop children's learning and understanding
- The curriculum plans will ensure that objectives are repeated multiple times. This will ensure that children are given the opportunity to revisit and consolidate their learning and deepen their understanding
- Links will be made across subjects and children will be given opportunities to make connections between aspects of their learning. We strive to ensure that these links are clear and explicit to our children
- Both inside and outside provision will be planned for to ensure that children have frequent opportunities to learn independently and solve problems. Not all learning takes place within the context of a 'lesson'. Teachers become facilitators providing support and guidance where required
- The curriculum content, themes and topics will be reviewed regularly to ensure that it is effective in meeting the needs of the children and it is engaging and relevant.

Our curriculum is planned in three phases:

We have an **outline long term plan** for each key stage (Foundation and Key Stage 1). This plan sets out the theme or topic for each half term and which curriculum subjects or areas of learning will be taught.

We have **medium term plans** which teachers prepare each half term. These plans include details of learning intentions and objectives, key questions and Characteristics of Effective Learning. Planned visits, events and celebrations will also be identified.

Our **short-term plans** are those developed on a weekly basis by teachers working as part of a year group team. We develop these plans based on previous assessments of learning. Learning objectives are detailed and resources and activities are specified. Any differentiation is identified including information about how adult support will be directed.

Curriculum Enrichment

We enrich our curriculum in the following ways:

- Whole school events/activities/performances and celebrations
- Educational visits
- Visitors into school
- Outdoor learning and physical activities
- Collaboration with outside agencies and other schools
- Extra-curricular clubs and groups
- Themed weeks and events

Forest School Curriculum

At Saltersgate Infant school we are passionate about giving children the very best experience both inside and outside the classrooms and are very fortunate to have such a rich and varied environment. We are very proud of our Forest School provision where all children attend regular sessions led by our qualified practitioners. The children have lots of places where they can explore, get dirty and learn about plants and animals and how to care for them, thus setting the seeds for growth of environmental awareness and responsiveness. Through engaging with nature and wildlife, our children gain more knowledge and respect for their immediate environment and learn how we affect the wider environment in general.

Research demonstrates how regular Forest School sessions help support the holistic development of children intellectually, physically, cognitively and emotionally, and build learners that show;

- Resilience
- Inquisitive
- Imagination
- Confidence
- self-awareness
- positive self-esteem
- problem solving skills
- the ability to take risks

Inclusion

At Saltersgate Infant School, we ensure that all children have access to all elements of our curriculum. We will ensure that teaching and learning both in the classroom and for home-learning, will be effectively differentiated to ensure that all children can achieve to their full potential.

Monitoring of the Curriculum

We will monitor teaching and learning in a variety of ways:

- Lesson observations
- Learning Walks
- Work sharing
- Coaching and modelling of good practice
- Monitoring of planning
- Subject leadership/Subject Action Plans
- Performance Management

The delivery of the school curriculum will be **monitored by** the Headteacher, Senior Leaders and Subject Leaders. Governors will monitor in consultation with the Headteacher.

Remote Learning Curriculum

We recognise that due to variety of circumstances, there are situations in which the delivery of 'face-to face' lessons is not possible. In these instances, Saltersgate will offer a 'Remote Learning' package to our pupils which will carefully consider the provision of work, teacher support, assessment and feedback.

During remote education we will ensure;

- Work is meaningful, ambitious and of high quality, closely aligning with in-school provision wherever possible

- Pupils have access to a well-sequenced curriculum where knowledge and skills are built incrementally, with a good level of clarity about what is intended to be taught and practised across a range of subjects
- Staff use a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources and teaching videos, linked to the school's curriculum expectations
- We provide frequent, clear explanations of new content and effectively gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum, adjusting the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments
- We provide printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks, for pupils who do not have suitable online access

We recognise that younger pupils and some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support, and thus we will work with families to deliver a broad and ambitious curriculum.

Linked Policies

This Policy is underpinned by other school policies and should be read alongside them. These are: Teaching and Learning Policy; Feedback and Marking Policy; Inclusion Policy; Anti-bullying Policy; Behaviour Policy; Equal Opportunities Policy

Future of the School Curriculum at Saltersgate Infant School

Having a well-balanced, creative and engaging curriculum is a high priority at our school and this policy is designed to achieve this. It is important that this policy is well understood by all stakeholders of the school and is referred to as a working document. It should be reviewed regularly and updated accordingly. It must be updated as changes are made nationally.