

Spofforth CE Primary School - 'Experiencing Learning Together'

Curriculum Summary of Primary National Curriculum Subjects

Read in conjunction with Curriculum and Learning foundations and Curriculum Long Term Plans.

English

The key strands of the Early Years curriculum facilitate the development of the knowledge skills and understanding related to the teaching of English. These include speaking and listening, development of core phonics and vocabulary as well as fine and gross motor skills.

English consists of the following areas: reading-word reading and comprehension; writing- spelling and handwriting; grammar and punctuation; composition- vocabulary, planning, drafting, writing, evaluating and editing. The majority of these areas are taught through the class text, whilst occasionally it is necessary to focus on a specific aspect. Children are encouraged to deepen their understanding through discussion, questioning and making informed choices as to their tasks.

English is generally taught on a daily basis and is threaded through other subjects to consolidate knowledge, understanding and skills. Each class uses a chosen text as a focus for their learning, which then links to other areas of the curriculum. Making these links helps to deepen children's understanding.

Maths

This follows on from the Early Years curriculum where the Maths strands are Number and Shape, Space and Measure.

Maths consists of the following areas: Number and number operations (+,-,x,÷), fractions, decimals and percentages, measures, ratio and proportion and geometry (properties of shapes). Calculation is a key fundamental element and children are taught key methods that reflect a focus on a full understanding of calculation alongside efficient ways of working mathematically. Further information can be found in the school calculation guide. Pupils are encouraged to develop their skills and make links across these areas to see the pattern and beauty of maths.

Maths is also typically taught on a daily basis and threaded through other subjects, where appropriate, to consolidate understanding and skills. Pupils follow an enquiry based approach where they are encouraged to ask questions and make links between their learning. Problem solving is fundamental to all areas of maths and pupils focus on solving problems in an everyday context.

Science

Building on the Early Years approach of Understanding the World, Science is topic based and themes change either termly or half termly. As in maths, pupils follow an enquiry based approach by generating questions in order to deepen understanding of and explore the world around them. Scientific enquiry includes; observing over time; pattern seeking; identifying; classifying and grouping; comparative and fair testing (controlled investigations); and researching using secondary sources.

A variety of skills are developed through an explorative and practical approach, with children encouraged to ask questions to deepen learning, as in other areas of the curriculum. Often the children's questions are the stimulus for their investigations.

Geography and History

These subjects are built on the foundation of the Early Years 'Understanding the World.' Geography and History form a significant part of our text led curriculum. Either History or Geography will be a specific focus for the term or half term depending on the text. The understanding developed within these areas is transferrable and often encompasses English and Maths skills. Enquiry is at the heart of both subjects, where once again the pupils' interest and questions can lead the learning.

To develop their Geographical understanding, pupils are taught: Locational knowledge; place knowledge; human and physical geography and geographical skills and fieldwork.

In History, children gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past, including local knowledge, and that of the wider world. Pupils will develop a chronological knowledge, whilst gaining enquiry skills and a curiosity to know more about the past.

Computing

Consists of four strands; multi-media; programming; on-line skills and knowledge (including e-safety) and data. Children develop their understanding of how to use basic computer programmes and the World Wide Web. Internet safety is also taught. These skills are linked into and subsequently used to enhance their learning. Programming is given precedence with pupils experiencing programming basic devices up to writing their own computer programme sequences.

Art and design

Art and Design are taught alternately and are linked into our class text. Pupils' skills are initially developed in Early Years through Expressive Arts. All pupils will have the opportunity to use a wide range of media and materials and learn about cooking, nutrition, food preparation and hygiene. Skills will be regularly revisited throughout the classes to ensure pupils have the chance to build on previous experience and make improvements.

P.E

Physical education works on an annual programme. Pupils will experience a broad range of activities including; dance, invasion games; net and wall games, gymnastics, striking and fielding, athletics, Outdoor Adventurous Activities and swimming (typically in year 3&4). All pupils usually have two sessions of P.E weekly. Pupils develop their confidence, skills, health and fitness. Through the programme the pupils will meet activities at the same time as their peers, allowing children to compete within classes, key stages and against other schools.

Modern Foreign Language (MFL)

French is taught from Key Stage 2. The emphasis is on spoken language and asking questions. Pupils learn through songs, games and practical activities in short weekly sessions. These provide opportunities for them to communicate and read literature in French. Regular revisiting throughout the week allows children to embed the language they have learnt. On-going displays promote vocabulary links to topics and texts. Children are also taught about the cultures of French speaking countries.

Music

Music is taught throughout the school, with a focus on performance, composition and music appreciation. All pupils have the opportunity to perform to an audience at regular intervals and experience a variety of different instruments. They learn to read and write musical notation and explore music from other cultures. Skills are developed as children progress through the school.

Learning to Learn

The skills gained through Learning to Learn underpin our curriculum. Pupils develop their personal, social and emotional and thinking skills through becoming questioning learners, who respond well to challenges. Learning is divided into six areas:- Happy and confident Learner; Engaged Learner; Resourceful Learner; Questioning Learner; Independent Learner and Team Learner. Children develop transferable skills that will enable them to become successful lifelong learners.

All lessons have identified National Curriculum learning and a 'Learning to Learn' outcome.