

Curriculum information for 2015-2016

At Five Ways Primary School your child will experience a broad and balanced curriculum in line with The National Curriculum and the Local Authority's syllabus for Religious Education.

Our Curriculum Philosophy

At Five Ways we believe in a broad and balanced curriculum which engages and inspires our pupils, encouraging them to achieve and become lifelong learners. All pupils study Maths and English daily to ensure that the basic skills of literacy and numeracy are mastered and developed fully. However, we also believe in the importance of all other areas of the curriculum including the arts, humanities, physical education and languages. Therefore throughout the week, pupils study a range of subjects through a variety of themes.

We aim for our pupils to be investigative and therefore our unit titles are often set as questions where pupils work towards developing their knowledge, skills and understanding through each unit of learning. Assessment is on-going throughout the teaching and learning process ensuring that teachers understand what pupils have understood well and what might be the 'next steps' in their learning.

Social, moral, spiritual and cultural education (known as SMSC) also underpins the curriculum at Five Ways and throughout their learning, we aim for pupils to develop their knowledge of themselves and others in the school, the local community and in the wider world in which they live.

At Five Ways we believe in equality and inclusion and as such aim to meet the needs of all pupils through our curriculum, including those with special educational needs / disabilities and the more able. Curriculum content and the style of teaching is adapted to meet the needs of different pupils and ensure that all pupils reach their potential across the curriculum.

Our curriculum is of course, more than daily lessons and also encompasses other activities such as assembly time, visitors into school, educational visits and termly curriculum enrichment days.

If you would like to know more about our curriculum, please feel free to contact a member of staff at school who would be more than willing to give you further information.

What is the national curriculum?

The 'basic' school curriculum includes the 'national curriculum', as well as religious education. The national curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by primary schools so children learn the same things. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards children should reach in each subject.

Where can I find information about the national curriculum?

Information about the national curriculum is published in the Department for Education section of the government's website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum>

The new National Curriculum

The government published a new National Curriculum in September 2013. This new curriculum was implemented in some year groups in September 2014, and will be implemented in all year groups from September 2015. The new curriculum includes changes to the name of some subject areas, to the content of some subjects, changes in expectations for attainment for each subject and changes to assessment practices.

What subjects will be taught in primary schools?

The subjects covered in the new National Curriculum remain the same: English, Mathematics, Computing (previously known as ICT), Science, History, Geography, Languages, Design and Technology, Art and Design, Music and Physical Education. Primary school children are also taught Religious Education, the syllabus for which is set by the Local Authority, and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education).

English

The English curriculum consists of 'spoken word', 'reading' and 'writing.' The reading element includes 'word reading' and 'comprehension.' The writing element includes 'transcription' which is spelling and handwriting, and 'composition.' Our school uses the Oxford Reading Tree scheme alongside 'real' books to support the development of children in reading. We use DfE resources 'Letters And Sounds' and 'Support For Spelling' to guide the teaching of phonics and spelling.

Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum consists of 'Number - number and place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions', 'Measurement' and 'Geometry - properties of shapes, position and direction'.

Year 2 and Year 6

New SATs tests are being published for use in Year 2 and Year 6 in May 2016. These will assess children's attainment against the expectations of the new National Curriculum.

How will I know what my child is studying this year in each subject of the curriculum?

You will be informed about curriculum content via termly Parent Planning statements. These will inform you of the intended learning for your child in all subjects.

An overview of the curriculum content for each year group will also be published on our Five Ways Primary School website.

Assessment information

The National Curriculum is organised into blocks of years called 'key stages' (KS). At the end of each key stage, your child's teacher will formally assess their performance to measure your child's progress.

Age	Year	Key stage	Assessment
3 to 4		Early years	
4 to 5	Reception	Early years	
5 to 6	Year 1	KS1	Phonics screening check
6 to 7	Year 2	KS1	National tests in English (reading, writing, and spelling, punctuation and grammar) and Mathematics (arithmetic and reasoning) Teacher assessment of speaking and listening, and Science
7 to 8	Year 3	KS2	
8 to 9	Year 4	KS2	
9 to 10	Year 5	KS2	
10 to 11	Year 6	KS2	National tests and teacher assessments in English (reading, writing, and spelling, punctuation and grammar), Mathematics (arithmetic and reasoning) and Science

What are SATs?

SATs are compulsory national tests for primary school pupils. Children in England take the Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) at the ages of 7 and 11. SATs comprise a mixture of teacher-led and test-based assessment depending on the age of the pupils.

More information about the SATs will be provided during assessment information meetings (dates for these will be sent home during the year) and on the DfE website.