

A Curriculum for Life: Knowledge, Skills and Values for the Future



At Park Gate Primary School, we have designed a rich, ambitious and enjoyable curriculum for all children. Our aim is to create learners who are not only academically successful but also emotionally, socially, morally and culturally prepared for the modern world.

To maximise opportunities for learning, we have crafted a curriculum that blends discrete subject teaching with project-led learning, known as our Integrated Curriculum. While each subject is taught in its own right, our Integrated Curriculum ensures purposeful links are made across learning areas to deepen understanding and drive engagement to allow our children to know and remember more.

Each project includes hooks, rich experiences and learning outcomes and provides a vehicle for high quality, purposeful writing. This approach allows children to make meaningful connections, develop transferable skills, and immerse themselves in cross-curricular inquiry that reflects the complexity and relevance of real world issues.

Our curriculum is underpinned by the National Curriculum, sequenced progressively to build key knowledge, skills, and vocabulary across all subjects. It is designed to be inclusive, practical, and relevant to our children's lives, taking into consideration our locality as well as national, and global focuses.

We see our curriculum as a journey that begins in Early Years and culminates at the end of Year 6. Every step of our schools' curriculum is carefully planned to build upon previous learning (vertical progression), make connections across subjects and contexts (horizontal links) and prepare all children, no matter their starting point, for the next stage of education and life. Teachers and Subject Leaders collaborate to ensure that all children access an exciting, challenging, and high-quality curriculum every day.

We have high expectations for all our children linked to their behaviours for learning. We believe that children learn best in environments where they feel safe, valued and inspired. Our curriculum values are woven into our project learning and explicitly taught and modelled to children regularly through different teaching opportunities, these are:

Partnership
Achievement
Resilience
Kindness
Growth
Aspiration
Trust
Excellence

This combined with our ethos, known as The Park Gate Way, ensures that high expectations, respectful relationships, and consistent routines create a calm and purposeful climate for learning. We know that behaviour and attitudes are deeply linked to successful learning. Therefore, we actively teach and model expectations that help all children flourish both academically and personally.

A key priority of our curriculum is ensuring that children understand how to stay safe and develop healthy minds and bodies. Safety education is carefully embedded throughout the curriculum and revisited regularly and meaningfully through teaching and assembly time. Children are taught how to stay safe in a range of contexts. This includes developing awareness of strangers and understanding how to stay safe in and around roads in our local area. They are also guided on how to stay safe at home, learning about fire risks, electrical hazards and the safe use of household items in an age appropriate way. Online safety is a particular focus, as we equip children with the skills to make sensible choices around social media and online gaming. We also ensure that children understand the role of trusted adults and their trust teams, both in school and within the wider community, and the importance of speaking to professionals who are there to help keep them safe.

Physical and mental health education plays a central role in our curriculum. We help children understand how a balanced diet, regular exercise, and emotional awareness contribute to their long term health and happiness.

We are a 'talking school' where children know they will be listened to and supported. Our commitment to fostering a safe, inclusive environment ensures that all children feel valued and confident to speak out, ask questions, and seek help when needed.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development

We believe that a high quality curriculum should help children understand the world and their place within it. Through our teaching, we support children in becoming thoughtful, ethical and open-minded individuals who respect and celebrate diversity.

Children are encouraged to explore their own beliefs and show curiosity about those of others, developing a sense of wonder and creativity as they reflect on their place in the world. They are taught to understand the difference between right and wrong, to take responsibility for their actions, and to consider the impact of their choices on themselves and others through natural and logical consequences. Respectful dialogue and debate are encouraged, as children learn to listen carefully, consider alternative viewpoints, and engage in discussions about moral and ethical issues.

We promote collaboration and community mindedness by encouraging children to work with others, to take care of their environment led by our Eco Warriors, and to develop the skills to resolve conflicts in constructive and respectful ways led by our School council and House Captains. Through their learning of Art, Music, Literature, History and Geography, children gain a deep appreciation of cultural diversity, both within Britain and globally. They are taught to understand and respect the principles of democracy, liberty, the rule of law, mutual respect, and tolerance values that prepare them for life in modern Britain.

We are ambitious for every pupil at Park Gate and are committed to ensuring that all children, regardless of background or starting point, experience success and personal growth. Our Integrated Curriculum and wider school ethos are designed to meet the needs of all learners, including those who require additional support or may have experienced interrupted learning. We create real life learning experiences that are rooted in our local context while also opening up the wider world, using modern day technology of virtual reality to take children to places they would never be able to go and experience things that are beyond the classroom walls, enriching and enhancing their experiences and learning.

At Park Gate, we believe that education should inspire, empower and transform. Our curriculum is carefully planned, values driven, and built on the belief that every child can succeed and thrive when given the right opportunities - 'Success for All.' It is designed not just to prepare children for academic success, but to help them grow into responsible citizens, lifelong learners, and kind human beings.

To find out more about our curriculum, we invite you to explore our Year Group Integrated Curriculum Maps, visit our 'Curriculinks', or view the Subject Information pages available on our website.

