



Pitsford School

School Policy Document

Name of Policy: Curriculum Policy (Junior School)

Audience: Public

Date for Next Review: Spring 2023

SLT Member(s) Responsible for Reviewing and Updating the Policy: RH

Our curriculum forms the basis for our pupils' learning and their experiences during their time at Pitsford Junior School. We aim to provide a broad, balanced and creative curriculum that is accessible and relevant to all of our pupils. We seek to provide appropriate learning opportunities to all pupils within the core curriculum and to encourage their personal development in all areas. We ensure that learning in the Junior School broadens the values and opportunities for every child as they grow and develop.

All pupils in KS1 and LKS2 follow our creative curriculum, which fosters links between subjects. Creative elements are included within UKS2 topics; however, science is taught as a discrete rather than an integral subject at this stage. KS1 classes broadly follow the seven areas of learning from the EYFS as a basis for their cross-curricular themes.

The curriculum as a whole includes the following statutory skills:

- Linguistic
- Mathematical
- Scientific
- Technological
- Human and social
- Physical
- Aesthetic and creative

Language

The core English curriculum is planned to ensure a clear and coherent progression in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Book weeks, theatre visits and invited guests such as poets and authors provide an additional stimulus to enrich the subject. Language skills are developed through the teaching of French from Squirrels to Year 6.



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Mathematics

The core Maths curriculum teaches pupils to make calculations, understand and appreciate the relationships and patterns in number and space, develop a capacity to think logically and express thoughts clearly. Pupils are taught to solve problems, reason and explain their ideas with confidence. Mathematical skills are also encouraged and addressed where appropriate in other areas, such as science, DT and ICT.

Science

The core science curriculum covers topics including life processes and living things, physical processes and materials and their properties. Regular opportunities for developing 'working scientifically' skills are planned using practical investigations that enable pupils to predict, observe, test and record. Enquiry types such as comparative and fair testing, research, observation over time and pattern seeking form an important part of the science curriculum.

Technological

This area is largely addressed by the core curriculum in ICT and Design and Technology. It is also supported by the science curriculum. In ICT pupils are taught to use a range of applications including word-processing, modelling, control, coding, Internet and e-mail skills, spreadsheets and databases. ICT is used, where appropriate, in the teaching of other subjects. Design and Technology is taught as a separate subject.

Human and Social

This area is largely addressed by our creative curriculum, which can encompass history, geography, science and RE. PSHE also helps to reflect the school's aims and ethos. Within this area, pupils are encouraged to recognise links within the curriculum so that they can appreciate how human action now and in the past has influenced events and developments.

Physical

This area aims to develop pupils' physical control and co-ordination as well as tactical skills and imaginative responses in a variety of team and individual sports. It is taught through Games, PE, swimming, dance and drama and is supported by extra-curricular activities. Pupils are taught the basic principles of fitness and health and to adopt a healthy attitude to diet.

Aesthetic and Creative

This area is largely addressed by the core curricula in the arts and music, encouraging making, composing and inventing. Important contributions are made through PE, dance and English, particularly drama. Pupils are encouraged to explore



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and develop their creativity and talents throughout the curriculum in accordance with their skills and abilities.

The Early Years Curriculum

The Early Years curriculum includes a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities based around the seven areas of learning. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. The Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework is used as a structure for planning challenging and enjoyable cross-curricular themes. The topics are used as a guide only, allowing the flexibility to change daily plans to incorporate the children's current interests and needs and plan for individual 'next steps'.

Emphasis is placed on the child's need for social interaction, active participation, direct experiences and practical activities. Children are encouraged to explore and investigate in all seven areas of learning.

Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. These are known as the 'Prime' areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication, Language
- Physical Development

Children are also supported in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive arts and design

Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Children learn how to work, play, co-operate with others and function in a group beyond the family. The goals cover important aspects of personal, social, moral and spiritual development, including personal values and an understanding of self and others.

Communication, Language and Literacy

The goals centre on communication helping children to learn to listen and express their needs and feelings. This starts with non-verbal communication and recognises children's need to engage in the use of all senses when learning. Children are engaged in numerous activities to develop speaking, listening, reading and writing.



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Mathematics

Activities are mainly practical and can be developed through many other curriculum areas such as Language, Music and PE. The emphasis is on play, experimenting and consolidation. Areas of learning include number, shape, space and measure. Learning is developed through counting, sorting, matching, looking for patterns and recognising relationships.

Understanding the World

The children's knowledge and understanding of their environment, other people and features of the natural and man-made world is developed. It provides a basis for historical, geographical, scientific and technological learning through practical activities.

Physical development

This area focuses on children's physical control, coordination, mobility, awareness of space and manipulative skills in indoor and outdoor environments. The goal includes establishing positive attitudes towards a healthy and active way of life.

Expressive Arts and Design

This goal encourages the development of children's imaginations allowing them to communicate and express their ideas and feelings creatively through art, music, movement, dance, imaginative and role-play activities and design and technology.