

The District CE Primary School – Curriculum Statements of Intent

English

We aim for all of our pupils to be capable readers, writers, spellers and speakers, who can transfer their English skills to other subjects and who are prepared for the next steps in their learning. We nurture them as eloquent and articulate speakers and writers, who use a wide and purposeful vocabulary. We encourage them as readers, who select texts for purpose and pleasure. Books and reading are at the heart of everything we do. Our bespoke, book-based curriculum is built upon quality picture books, novels and non-fiction texts, which support children on the journey from reading to writing. Within our timetable, we are committed to providing independent reading time, novel time and comprehension on a daily basis. We enhance and engage learning through learning through focus weeks, author visits, library trips and visiting book fairs.

Maths

At the District, we are committed to fostering an enthusiasm for maths. Children will have a secure recall of key mathematical facts and a fluent understanding of concrete calculation. Carefully planned opportunities will enable connections to be developed between the maths we learn in school and its real life application of numeracy for life. Learning is enhanced by the exploration of mathematical concepts in a range of fun, purposeful experiences; helping children to become fluent, determined mathematicians, who can confidently explain their understanding and solve problems.

Religious Education

Through the teaching of Religious Education, our pupils will be able to articulate what it means to be a Christian and how this affects people's lives, through sensitively asking and answering questions. They will use a variety of media, such as art and drama, to enable them to find answers and aid discussions, which support the 'Big Questions' and will confidently use the Religious Literacy introduced in each Key Stage. Pupils will have the opportunities to make links with the wider world and other faiths, whilst at the same time learning skills that will enable them connect Christian practices, values and beliefs to events and teaching in the Bible.

Science

'Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known' (Carl Sagan)

At The District CE Primary, an enriched science curriculum that provides many opportunities for practical lessons is key. Teachers create a positive attitude to science learning within their classrooms and reinforce an expectation that all children are capable of achieving high standards in science. As one of the core subjects, we give the teaching and learning of science the prominence it requires. The children are exposed to a wide variety of topics that support their natural curiosity for learning. Our curriculum aims to broaden the children's scientific view of, and respect for, the world around them, whilst promoting a love for enquiry and wanting to explore new things. We want our pupils to develop a love for science that carries through into later life, instilling in them an awareness of how science is relevant in today's society. We ensure that the Working Scientifically skills are built-on and developed throughout their time here, so that they can independently plan and carry out investigations to answer questions that puzzle them; competently use scientific equipment to measure and record data accurately and have the necessary skills and vocabulary to confidently explain concepts and articulate their findings.

We endeavour to ensure that the science curriculum we provide will give children the confidence and motivation to continue to further develop their skills into the next stage of their education and life experiences.

History

At the District, pupils are curious about the past. They enquire about the causes of historical events and understand how these have impacted the future. Through their history lessons, pupils learn the variety of ways in which the past is represented and are taught to interpret a range of sources, both primary and secondary. The skills acquired in history equip pupils to consider and evaluate current world events and to predict the possible effects these will have on the future.

Geography

Our pupils are responsible global citizens, who have a solid understanding of place, and appreciate and respect the diverse cultures and traditions of our world. They understand the role they play in protecting the Earth and its resources. Pupils are taught about the physical features of the Earth and about human activity, including populations, politics and economics. They can compare and contrast world locations and competently use mapping skills. Whenever possible, pupils take part in fieldwork. Pupils use their geographical skills to become active and effective members of their local and world community.

Computing

When teaching computing at The District CE, our aim is to equip the children with the skills required to use computers effectively to enable them to maximise their potential. To do so, we aim to deploy teaching strategies that promote resilience, independence, critical thinking, communication skills and problem solving. We hope that our pupils become confident users of IT and responsible digital citizens, who are ready to meet the challenges of their digital future.

Physical Education

At The District CE, we aim to promote a 'Sports for All' attitude amongst the children, where all pupils develop a keen interest in sport and are willing to partake in most sporting activities. To do so, we aim to provide a variety of engaging lessons delivered by internal staff and external bodies; deploy a wide range of teaching strategies and enter a good selection of competitions for the children across both key stages. By doing this, the pupils of The District CE will further develop their confidence and self-esteem when they are accessing P.E. lessons and when they are representing the school in sporting competitions. The pupils will also continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of a wide range of sports, equipping them with the skills they need to access most, if not all, sporting activities.

Art and Design

It is our belief that all children should have access to an art and design curriculum which fosters a lifelong love and appreciation this subject. We strive to present children with a diverse range of experiences, so that they can experience art and design from different cultures and periods of historical significance. Our curriculum ensures that children's experiences of this subject will result in them being able to use the visual elements of art and design confidently, in their own work. We expect children to be able to look at an image or a piece of art or design and to understand it, not just react to it. We equip them with the skills required to have an understanding of the language of art and design. This enables them to describe what they see in detail and to provide evidence for their observations. We offer an extensive range of extra-curricular experiences for our children; enabling them to get involved in art, draft and design based projects, which explore a wide variety of mediums. Our children have opportunities to work alongside professional artists, in exciting projects which

enhance our whole school environment. All children in our school are given the opportunity to visit local art galleries: to provide memorable, immersive, learning experiences, to provoke their imaginations further and to offer them exposure to unique environments, where they can make first hand observations of art and design.

Design Technology

It is our belief that by offering children an inspiring, stimulating and challenging design technology curriculum, we can equip them with the skills and knowledge they will need, to thrive in a rapidly advancing technological world. Nobody can predict the changes in technology which will occur during the lives of our children. However, what we do know is that the skills which they will need to be successful in their futures will remain the same. With this in mind, our design technology curriculum presents our children with experiences which develop their interpersonal skills. We teach them the language skills they will need to be effective communicators. We present them with challenging, relevant projects, which promote, encourage and develop their creativity. Through a diverse range of experiences, we actively encourage our children to be critical thinkers, forward planners and effective problem solvers. We also teach our children to be able to work as capable individuals and valuable, productive team members. Through our design technology curriculum, we teach our children about the impact of design and technology on the lives of people from all walks of life. From the very first tool makers, to the most up to date advancements in technology, our children learn to value the significance of this curriculum area in real terms. Through focused STEM weeks, our children are presented with opportunities to meet and engage with designers and technology which is being used in the world of industry. They become involved in exciting, inspiring projects which showcase their own skills, creativity and talents. We are constantly striving to present our children with opportunities to explore and understand the most up to date advancements in technology, through a range of exciting and challenging extra-curricular experiences.

Music

At The District, we provide a music curriculum that is fully-inclusive, enabling a universal language to be spoken by all our pupils. We provide a music education that empowers individuals to partake in one of the highest art forms, that promotes self-confidence, self-esteem and gives all pupils a sense of achievement. We do this through providing opportunities for appreciation, composition and singing alongside new opportunities and chances to showcase talents within and beyond our school community. We are committed to inspiring children to develop a life-long love of music, develop creativity, imagination and fostering talents.

PSHE and Citizenship

At The District, we aim to provide a bespoke curriculum in which PSHE and citizenship are embedded. Our subject provision includes opportunities to develop pupils' spiritual, moral and social cultural development, whilst strongly upholding and promoting British Values. This in turn will enable all students to develop an understanding of the ever changing world in which we live, develop the skills necessary to take an active role in their community and manage their lives effectively.