

Curriculum Statement

The curriculum at Mount Pleasant consists of activities and experiences designed or encouraged by the community to:

- Promote the personal, spiritual, moral, cultural, social, emotional, intellectual and physical development of our pupils’;
- Enable our pupils to live fulfilling enriching lives;
- Prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

We believe that every child must have opportunities to fulfil their potential and to this end we are committed to the ‘Every Child Matters’ agenda:

Being Healthy- Enjoying good physical and mental health and living a healthy lifestyle,

Staying Safe- Being protected from harm and neglect,

Enjoying and Achieving- Getting the most out of life and developing the skills for adulthood,

Economic Well Being- Not being prevented by economic disadvantage from achieving their full potential in life.

Our Curriculum is made up of:

- The statutory requirements of the National Curriculum;
- The quality of relationships , PSHE and SEAL;
- Attitudes and values which are taught both directly and indirectly;

Our curriculum should reflect that ‘children matter’

- The needs and potential of all our pupils;
- The expectations and aspirations of our parents and carers.
- Support children to develop the capacity to develop and sustain good relationships and a willingness to contribute to society;
- Encourage and support children to achieve their best;

To secure the educational entitlement of all:

- We will work in partnership with other stakeholders;
- Support the learning of individual staff through professional development;
- Consult with and listen to others;
- Base decisions on reliable evidence;
- Be open to alternative points of view and alternative solutions;
- Be committed to research;
- Be transparent in decision making and our performance;
- Value self-esteem;
- Use resources effectively and efficiently;
- Be proactive in the management of the well being of all stakeholders in our learning community;
- Work purposefully to achieve our aims.

Our Curriculum aims to develop intelligent learners:

All pupils are intelligent. Our curriculum is intended to reflect the range of intelligences and learning styles of our pupils.

- Some pupils have strengths in absorbing and recalling information while others are particularly capable of reasoning and logical argument;
- Some are quick to think and learn using words and language, while others have more practical talents;
- There are some children who have a particular spatial awareness, perhaps with maps and a sense of direction or in terms of movement in space, such as in dance or sports activities;
- Some have particular physical skills, involving high levels of co-ordination or good physical control.
- Others have musical talents, as composers and/or performers;
- There are pupils who are creative and imaginative;
- Some children have high levels of interpersonal skills and/or sensitivity;
- Some children have excellent emotional intelligence;
- Some have good common sense and can find simple solutions to problems.

Our Curriculum Framework

In order to take their place in the world, to survive and thrive, our children need:

- A positive sense of personal identity;
- A range of secure attitudes and values;
- Well developed skills;
- A broad base of knowledge and understanding.

Our school vision statement encompasses the need to have a quality education-care of self, care of others and care for the environment.

A Positive Sense Of Personal Identity

A sense of self and particularly to recognise the uniqueness of each individual person.

The curriculum should help our pupils to:

- Develop their self-worth and personal confidence;
- Gain an increasing understanding of their own values, their emerging strengths and areas for their further personal development.

A sense of being a learner.

The curriculum should help our pupils to:

- See themselves as active learners, capable of self review and evaluation;
- Believe they are capable of learning and have high expectations;
- Know about the different ways of learning;
- Enjoy learning for itself as well as the opportunities it can bring;
- See learning as an activity that people of all ages actively and enthusiastically engage in;
- See themselves as lifelong learners;
- Strive to become independent learners.

A sense of belonging.**The curriculum should help our pupils to:**

- Benefit and contribute as active members of their local community;
- Form , develop and sustain relationships;
- Develop, at an appropriate level, an understanding of the various groups to which they belong- friendship groups, the class, the school, the family and the wider communities in the city, country and the world;
- Understand their rights and responsibilities;
- Understand the effects of their behaviour on other people;
- Experience working with members of other social, religious and ethnic groups (and understand their needs) and value collaboration;
- Feel that they can, with others, influence the future.

A sense of place.**The curriculum should help our pupils to:**

- Establish roots in the place in which they are growing up and see themselves as valued citizens;
- Know about the various places which influence their lives and to which they can contribute;
- Understand how local, national and global issues shape their lives and how their own actions can have an impact.

A sense of time.**The curriculum should help our pupils to:**

- Understand how the past influenced the present and will continue to influence their lives in the future;
- Know how the local area has developed over time and how the City has been shaped and has changed over the years;
- Be aware of their heritage and how it can be sustained;
- Feel involved in shaping their future.

A sense of culture.**The curriculum should help our pupils to:**

- Value and respect the culture in which they and their families have their roots (understand and engage in the artistic, linguistic and religious aspects of their own culture);
- Appreciate the richness of the diverse traditions, languages and religions in the school, locally and across the City and beyond.

A sense of health and sustainability.**The curriculum should help our pupils to:**

- Gain an understanding of their personal health and well-being;
- Gain a sense of how they can affect and influence the health and ecology of their home, their communities and the world in which they live and recognise that the choices they make affect the long-term future of the planet.

As a unique school with children from a wide variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds and twenty different languages spoken it is important to identify a range of core attitudes and values common to everyone.

The curriculum should help our pupils to:

- Care for others and respect their views and opinions;
- Have a positive outlook on life;
- Develop pride in their family, school, community and City;
- Retain a sense of curiosity, awe and wonder about life;
- Realise that learning continues throughout life;
- Be inspired to do their best;
- Respond to challenges with enthusiasm;
- Think independently and have the confidence to express ideas
- Understand that failure is only ever temporary and offers an opportunity to learn;
- Can set targets and work towards them;
- Value working with others;
- Be self reflective;
- Develop life and social skills.

What should our curriculum be teaching our children?

Communication and literacy skills

Our pupils need to:

- Develop a wide vocabulary;
- Speak clearly and confidently in a range of situations;
- Read fluently;
- Use inference and deduction and develop good comprehension skills;
- Write effectively in a range of styles and contexts.

Numeracy skills

Our pupils need to:

- Understand numbers and their operations;
- Develop a wide mathematical vocabulary;
- Recognise patterns and relationships;
- Use data to create graphs and charts and be able to interpret data from graphs and charts;
- Develop a set of skills/strategies to solve problems and answer questions independently.

(ICT) Information and communication technology skills

Our pupils need to be able to use ICT to:

- Support their learning;
- Solve problems;
- Analyse, process and present information;
- Model, measure and control external events;
- Research;
- Be aware of risks, e.g. viruses and inappropriate material, and know what to do if faced with one of these.

Learning Skills

Our pupils need to:

- Know how to manage their own learning;
- Know their targets;
- Know how to assess their progress against their targets;
- Be involved in setting some of their own targets;
- Be able to mark each others work, identifying positives and areas to develop;
- Respond to teachers comments in their books;
- Be able to tell you the learning outcomes for a lesson and accurately assess their own progress;
- Have some opportunities to be involved in planning work;
- Develop problem-solving skills, investigative skills, analytical skills, study skills and creative skills;
- Develop all the skills necessary to become life-long learners.

Life and social skills

Our pupils need to:

- Develop their self-esteem;
- Learn self-control and how to manage their emotions;
- Form relationships and develop empathy;
- Reflect on feelings;
- Work co-operatively in a group/team;
- Be adaptable and able to deal creatively with change and uncertainty;
- Be able to make decisions and handle choices;
- Manage time;
- Have the skills to move easily between the different stages of education, training and the world of work.

In addition, our children will be taught a full range of the following skills so that they can take their place in the adult world.

- **Scientific and Technical skills**
- **Physical skills**
- **Artistic skills**
- **Musical skills**
- **Creative/performance skills**

Knowledge and understanding

We want to develop our pupils to become citizens of the future and have a voice and opinion based on their developing understanding. At our school this will be promoted through:

- Citizenship (including opportunities to work with the Junior Wardens)
- Health education
- School council
- Developing links with parents and the local communities
- Personal and social education opportunities
- Environmental education (including recycling)
- Developing links with other schools
- Role models from the local area and beyond demonstrating what's possible and supporting an understanding of the world of work
- Local, National, European and World awareness (weekly news board)

The curriculum for each subject will specify:

- Important ideas-Key concepts- which pupils should understand;
- Essential skills;
- Useful factual information-general knowledge.

Our pupils will be supported in all aspects of becoming a young citizen with strong values about themselves, others and their community which will enable them to effectively manage the changes they will encounter during their lives.

We will encourage children to apply these skills in:

- School
- The home
- Within the family
- The community-Local, National and global
- The environment
- Leisure activities