



Alder Grove
Church of England Primary School



Curriculum Policy

Date: September 2020

Review: September 2021

ALDER GROVE CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

CURRICULUM POLICY

Aims

The school aims to offer a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum carefully tailored to be fully inclusive and prepare pupils for the next stage in their learning. We include an emphasis on the development of oracy skills alongside reading, writing and maths.

Curriculum Intent

We have core principles of teaching and learning which drive how we plan and teach:

- We work together to ensure that all learners succeed and that every child is confident, happy and secure;
- We aim high and value excellence;
- We aim to teach a curriculum that is rich in subject knowledge and enables the child to make connections and have a strong understanding of the subject;
- We guide learning through an instructional framework with concrete models that demonstrate excellence;
- We see skills and understanding as a form of knowledge;
- We use questions to deepen understanding and we see mistakes as central to the learning process so we encourage resilience and a love of learning;
- We believe oracy in the classroom and a rich vocabulary should be taught as it supports learning and is the key to unlocking future potential of our learners
- We enable teachers by providing time, tools and resources to ensure high quality teaching;
- We strive to make learning activities engaging and real;

Curriculum Implementation

At Alder Grove Primary School, we plan learning in a thematic approach to the curriculum that is underpinned by the National Curriculum as the basis for content and expectations. Each theme is structured so that each year group has:

- A clear list of what must be covered (curriculum map).
- The 'threshold concepts' pupils should understand by the end of each year supported by knowledge organisers.
- Subject-specific progression maps that detail how knowledge and skills are developed through the child's journey through the school.

A thematic approach allows us to interleave knowledge across different contexts to maximise the retrieval and transferability of previously learned content. Whilst most content is subject-specific, there are regular opportunities for cross-curricular approaches often underpinned by Oracy-related outcomes.

Curriculum Impact

At Alder Grove we want our children to be motivated to succeed, demonstrate resilience and grow a love of learning. We strive to ensure that our children's attainment across subjects is in line with or exceeding their potential when we consider the varied starting points of children. We measure this carefully using a range of materials, but always considering Age Related Expectations. We intend that the impact is that

children will be academically and physically prepared for life in secondary school and in Modern Britain and the world.

The Primary National Curriculum clearly shows the framework which underpins the school's curriculum. Further information can be found [here](#).

Long Term curriculum planning is undertaken by the whole staff and defines the timetable of subject delivery across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Common themes across individual subjects are developed so themes and linked learning can be identified.

Year group teams plan Medium Term Planning which details the content of an individual subject within the curriculum.

Weekly plans are the responsibility of individual teachers which consider progress, differentiation and adult support.

Organisation:

Foundation Stage

In the Foundation Stage, the curriculum is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The focus of learning and teaching at this stage is learning through experience in a stimulating and child-friendly setting. Assessment is made against the Early Learning Goals at the end of the year.

Key Stage 1&2

Subjects are taught:

- In separate lessons
- In whole class groups, small groups and individually
- Using the mobile technology, Design/Technology Room and using the outdoor environment
- Using the wider local environment and external visitors

The teaching style and approach will vary according to the subjects, topic and pupil needs.

The time table will be flexible to include opportunities for visiting experts to work with pupils and for visits outside the School to enrich the curriculum.

The Wider Curriculum

The School encourages a broad range of interests. This will include the development of extra-curricular activities.

The children experience activities and events first hand, outside of the school environment during a variety of school trips.

Home Learning

Children further develop their learning through homework activities such as spelling and reading. Project based work will be set that links to a pupil's topics in class. This will be set over a longer period of time and will give children the opportunity to explore a range of skills in their home environment that will enhance their knowledge and understanding in school.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

We regularly use assessment tools to inform planning and develop learning in all subjects.

Equal Opportunities

The curriculum will be accessible to all children irrespective of their ethnic background, gender, disability or religious or linguistic background. Children with additional needs will have full access to the curriculum.