



## **Kislingbury C.E. Primary School**

### **Our Curriculum Statement**

#### **Our Vision:**

To ensure we provide all our children with the opportunity, support, guidance and care to reach their potential, academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. Within a supportive Christian family and through our shared Christian values of Hope, Forgiveness, Respect, Courage, Wisdom, Trust, Creativity and Kindness and with an overarching sense of love.

*'Love is patient, love is kind, it does not envy it does not boast, it does not keep a record of wrongs, it rejoices in the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres.'*

*Corinthians 13*

#### **Our Mission:**

Our school seeks to serve our local community. Almost half of our children live outside the parish of Kislingbury and emanate from a range social and economic backgrounds; as such we must ensure we are an inclusive and out would looking school. We welcome children of the Christian faith, of other faiths or of no faith, children from all backgrounds and of all abilities. We believe in the infinite worth of each person: children deserve the very best education and staff deserve support to deliver this.

#### **Our Pathway:**

Working together as one, through the affirmation of God's love within a distinctively Christian ethos, we aim to:

Educate for:

- Wisdom and Knowledge
- Hope and Aspiration
- Community and Living Well Together
- Dignity and Respect

And promote a positive, open and honest culture which embraces and nurtures these.

#### **Inclusivity**

We ensure our curriculum is accessible to all.

#### **Curriculum Intent:**

In our Trust the curriculum is broadly defined as the knowledge students are expected to learn (including spiritual, moral, social and cultural) through the totality of experiences provided in our children's primary schooling. By knowledge we mean facts, concepts and rules (declarative knowledge: to know that...), and procedural knowledge (to know how....) acquired through experience and /or education.

The curriculum lies at the heart of education in Kislingbury Primary School. It therefore determines what our learners will become, what they will know and understand, and what they will be able to do by the time they leave.

Bearing in mind the definition of knowledge above, we aim for our knowledge-rich curriculum to enable:

- (i) Sustained mastery (and a greater understanding for those who are capable) of subject specific key knowledge that we want the children to acquire;
- (ii) Sustained mastery of knowledge that pupils will need to be able to make sense of the world by providing rich cultural capital.

We deliver the National Curriculum 2014 throughout Key Stage 1 and 2 providing pupils with ‘an introduction to the essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens and to the best that has been thought and said, helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement’.

We regard the curriculum as the progression model. We focus on knowledge progression mainly through subject specific models within the context of themes or topics. Hence, our aim is for our curriculum to be coherently planned, organised and structured with key concepts identified and prioritised, built upon and revisited.

Key principles of our curriculum design are illustrated below:



William D. (2013) Principled Curriculum Design (Designed by Oliver Caviglioli)



Our individual class and subject curriculum maps provide a breakdown of the yearly cycle and how the various aspects of the curriculum link together..

Whilst we ensure that there is a broad and rich curriculum, we prioritise and regard the mastering of foundational knowledge as crucial in the younger years. Reading and vocabulary development is an integral part of our curriculum. We aim to develop Tier 1, 2 and 3 vocabulary (Isabel Beck 2002). Pupils from all backgrounds, including those who are disadvantaged, are provided with the tools to access a broad curriculum within a language rich environment.

We also aim for our curriculum to develop attitudes, attributes and dispositions which enable our children to:

- (i) develop as confident, responsible citizens;
- (ii) be prepared for future learning e.g. resilience, perseverance and a growth mind-set.

The mix of children in Kislingbury Primary School, from both a close village community, but also from a diversity of backgrounds within the wider area of Northampton, has led to a curriculum that aims to celebrate both that local community but also develop our pupil's knowledge and understanding of their wider community, nation and world.

Our curriculum has been built around celebrating individuality, by providing rich and broad experiences which empower each and every child to become accepting, conscientious and well-rounded members of the both their local and the global community.

### **Curriculum Implementation:**

'Learning is defined as an alteration in long-term memory. If nothing has been altered in long-term memory then nothing has been learned.'

Sweller et al. 2011

In line with cognitive load theory we aim, through our teaching, to develop understanding by building well-developed schema: well organised, connected knowledge as opposed to a handful of unconnected facts. We, therefore, favour spaced and distributed learning, where knowledge is rehearsed for short periods over a longer period of time. We aim to ensure retrieval practice is built in to strengthen memory by:

- Providing overviews
- Outlining content to be covered and signalling transitions between different parts of the lesson;
- Calling attention to main ideas;
- Providing daily, weekly and monthly reviews.
- Re-teaching when necessary.



We regard teaching as effective when underpinned by Rosenshine's 'Principles of Instruction' (see the Trust's Teaching and Learning statement). Effective questioning, effective use of formative assessment and adaptive, responsive teaching are regarded as key.

Responsive teaching will be delivered with appropriate reasonable adjustments in place to enable all children to access the curriculum.

We regard the following teachers' knowledge as essential:

- pedagogical knowledge: teachers' knowledge of effective teaching methods;
- content knowledge: teachers' subject knowledge;
- pedagogical content knowledge: teachers' knowledge of how to teach the particular subject / topic e.g. knowing the misconceptions that arise prior to teaching specific key knowledge.

### **Curriculum Implementation Across the School**

At Kislingbury School we have six classes for the seven year groups. This does lead to us having mixed age classes in Key Stage Two. This can lead to alternative paths through the three classes for pupils from Year three to six. Over the many years this has been in place we have found it has beneficial for many of our pupils, however it does lead to objectives in some curriculum areas being grouped into class rather than year group configuration. We have ensured that no national curriculum objectives are missed and when children do repeat an objective this will be within a different themed area, hence we have a two year scrolling cycle of topic themes and curriculum content and a four year cycle with history.

### **Curriculum Impact**

We measure this by the extent to which our aims, curriculum defined end points and strong outcomes are achieved as a result of our curriculum intent and implementation.

The vast majority of our pupils will have sustained mastery of key, detailed knowledge identified and some children will have a greater depth of understanding.

'If a student has learnt the curriculum, they have made progress.'

Michael Fordham

### **Curriculum Leadership**

Leadership of the curriculum is distributed. Subject leaders are given the autonomy to lead on their specific subject curriculum within the shared vision and accountability framework of the school. With our topic themed curriculum it is important that there is clear links between curriculum areas and vocabulary development in a specific curriculum area will enhance the learning other aspects of the curriculum.