

## **Embleton Vincent Edwards Primary School**

### **Curriculum Policy**

Children study all subjects in the National Curriculum. This includes mathematics, English, science, ICT (computer skills), history, geography, art, music, design technology, physical education, Spanish (in Key Stage 2) and personal, social and health education combined with citizenship.

Pupils are also taught RE in accordance with the Diocese of Newcastle syllabus.

#### **Literacy**

The development of literacy skills is a crucial element in a child's overall success. Our aim is to develop language skills through speaking and listening, reading, writing, spelling, handwriting and presentation. A good deal of emphasis is placed on developing reading skills and writing skills, encouraging creative work as well as spelling, grammar and handwriting.

In the reception class, parents and carers are encouraged to support their children through a shared reading scheme which is in addition to our structured reading programme.

Our main reading scheme is Oxford Reading Tree which is supplemented by others and our phonics lessons are based on Read Write Inc.

#### **Numeracy**

The programme of maths followed in school is based on the National Numeracy Strategy. We aim to develop the concepts of number, time, shape, space, measures as well as data handling. A great deal of emphasis is placed on developing mental strategies to solve problems. We try and make maths as practical as possible and apply it to everyday situations.

#### **Science**

Our aim is to develop an importance of science in everyday life including its relevance to personal health and safety. Children use a variety of domestic and environmental settings as a starting point for investigating science; through this we develop both oral and written communication skills. Children are encouraged to express their ideas in a variety of ways including report writing, drawings, charts and models.

#### **Information Communication Technology (ICT)**

We aim to create a learning environment where children are helped and encouraged to develop as individuals and as members of a small group. The development of ICT facilities in school is a central part of this philosophy. We have a suite of laptops that are wirelessly linked to the Internet so that they can be used all around the school. In addition to this each classroom has at least one computer. All classrooms have i-pads and they are used as an integral part of learning.

#### **Design Technology**

Technology combines work involved in design, home economics, and information technology. In design technology, pupils investigate, make and modify models using their practical knowledge and experience.

#### **History**

History is taught throughout the school, in the early years the subject is approached through general topics such as families, homes, transport and occupations. In Key Stage 2 the children work on study units covering specific topics. These include, Ancient Greeks, Vikings (invaders and settlers), Victorians and local study. Whenever possible the subject is approached in a practical way.

#### **Geography**

During the early years an emphasis is placed on the child's immediate surroundings, home, school, local parks, shops and the local Church. Local visits are made to reinforce their understanding. As the children reach years 3 and 4, they are encouraged to consider aspects of the wider world. We compare and contrast the immediate locality with other places in the UK, Europe and more distant places. Ranges of skills are developed at Key Stage 2 including mapping and map making, weather recording and interpreting, using aerial photographs.

#### **Art and Craft**

Art as a subject is well developed in school. A wide range of skills and techniques are covered. Children have the opportunity to work with a variety of materials and cover areas such as; drawing, painting, photography, printing, ceramics, sewing, weaving and construction activities.

#### **Physical Education**

PE is taught throughout school. Children experience gymnastics, dance, drama, games and athletics. Children in Reception through to Year 6 have swimming lessons weekly at the Willowburn Centre. They also have access to a range of sports such as netball, football, hockey, rugby and cricket. Some of these sports are taught by specialist coaches from Willowburn.

**Music**

Music is encouraged as an integral part of the curriculum and in provision of extra-curricular activities. From year 3 children have the opportunity to learn instruments through the County Music Service. Events are held throughout the year including Christmas and summer concerts.

**Religious Education**

We are a Church of England Aided School and place an emphasis on the teaching of religious education. The school follows the Diocesan syllabus for RE. While we recognise the right of parents to withdraw their child from RE lessons, it is anticipated that all children will take a full role in these lessons.

**Worship**

We have adopted the Newcastle Diocesan scheme for worship. Parents are welcome to attend our family worship on Thursday mornings at 9 am. While school recognises the right of parents to withdraw their child from acts of worship, it is anticipated that as we are a church school, parents would wish to support us and allow their child to play an active part in the life of the school.

**Sex Education**

Although no formal sex education is given, in the study of the natural world, the children encounter growth and development. The governors maintain a Sex and Relationship policy which is available from the school on request.

If you would like more information on our curriculum, please contact the school office

Policy ratified In October 2016

Review Date September 2017