



Woodhouse Primary Academy Curriculum Statement



Overview

Woodhouse Primary Academy has developed an ambitious curriculum that has been constructed and designed to give all pupils, particularly disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND, the knowledge and cultural capital to prepare and equip them for the next stage of their education and to enable them to succeed in life.

- Our curriculum is **knowledge engaged** and remains as broad as possible throughout the whole school.
- The design of the curriculum for all subjects is driven by the end of Key Stage Statements (1 and 2) in the National Curriculum programmes of study.
- The National Curriculum can be viewed in full at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-primary-curriculum>

- Children are taught to apply knowledge and are given opportunities to make links, comparisons and reflect on learning across the range of the curriculum. They show their understanding of the interconnectedness of learning and the depth of knowledge which is built over time.
- The curriculum is coherently planned and sequenced to provide cumulative knowledge, which children will demonstrate through their output in and across a range of learning outcomes.
- The curriculum is successfully adapted and designed to be ambitious whilst meeting the needs of children with SEND. Specialist support and expertise helps these children to develop knowledge and apply this with increasing fluency and confidence.
- The school utilises specialist teachers, where appropriate, to deliver specific aspects of the curriculum. The skills and abilities of these teachers are used to support and develop the practice of all.

English

Our curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- are avid readers, who display a love of reading and read for pleasure as well as being able to analyse and respond appropriately to a wide range of challenging texts
- take a pride in their writing, can write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style in a range of contexts
- develop confidence in the art of speaking and listening and can use discussion to communicate and further their learning

Reading is high priority at Woodhouse Primary Academy, from the effective teaching of Early Reading with our youngest pupils through to our Year 6 children who read and respond to a range of challenging and engaging texts both in taught guided reading sessions and through all areas of their learning. The reading skills that the children acquire enable them to access all aspects of the wider curriculum and prepare them for the challenges of the next stage of their education.

Writing is taught through English lessons with a focus on the fundamentals of spelling, punctuation and grammar. These fundamental skills are built upon year on year throughout Key Stage 1 and 2. Cross-curricular links are made where appropriate and children are encouraged to “magpie” ideas from published authors as well as developing their own writer’s voice.

Opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills are given throughout the English and wider curriculum. These include: debates and discussions, participating in class assemblies, explaining learning to others and talking to visitors. Each theme’s curriculum entitlement statement has a focus on new or subject specific vocabulary.

Maths

Our curriculum for Mathematics aims to ensure that all pupils:

- become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics
- are able to reason mathematically
- can solve problems and reason by applying the mathematical skills and knowledge that they have acquired

At Woodhouse Primary Academy we use White Rose Hub as a starting point for the teaching of mathematics. Teachers teach three part lessons that have a daily focus on fundamentals and fluency as well as teaching, developing and embedding skills and knowledge. Children in EYFS use Ten Town as an introduction to Mathematics and to help foster a love and curiosity for number and maths.

Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2 children have additional arithmetic sessions focusing on fluency and retention of key known facts such as the multiplication tables.

Children are encouraged to be curious about Mathematics, to challenge themselves and to see the place of Mathematics in the wider world.

Science

Our curriculum for science aims to ensure that all pupils:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics;
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them;
- are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

At Woodhouse Primary Academy, we believe Science fosters a healthy curiosity in children about the world around them, fuels excitement and wonder about natural phenomena and promotes respect for the living and non-living. We encourage pupils to develop an inquisitive approach to their learning and (through the programmes of study) pupils acquire, develop and build on their knowledge as they progress through their primary education. Pupils are taught to independently ask questions, make predictions, use equipment, conduct experiments, build arguments, research theories, observe results and patterns and explain concepts confidently.

Wherever possible cross-curricular links are made to embed the children's knowledge.

History/Geography/DT

History, Geography and DT are not taught as discreet subjects but are covered through our termly themes. Our curriculum approach is knowledge engaged and the focus of each theme is based around the key knowledge that the children will learn that term. Some themes are History based, some Geography and some mixed. Clear DT objectives and outcomes are identified for each theme.

The knowledge and skills that children acquire builds over time, for example children in Year 1 learn that the UK is made up of four countries (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) while children in Year 2 build on this knowledge by being able to locate each country on a map and name the corresponding capital cities.

Throughout all of the themes, while acquiring knowledge, children are encouraged to explore, challenge and ask questions.

Learning within lessons is complemented, where appropriate, with visitors and trips.

In addition to the learning within their books children demonstrate their knowledge through half termly pieces of learning that can be presented in a range of outcomes such as a piece of writing, a filmed drama or an animation. Over time children will build up their "knowledge portfolio".

Computing

Our aim is to provide a high-quality computing curriculum which equips children to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world whilst preparing children for careers of the future that may not currently exist. Technology will continue to be the driving force of the future world that children need to be equipped for.

The curriculum will teach children key knowledge about how computers and computer systems work and how they are designed and programmed.

By the time they leave WPA, the children will have gained key knowledge and skills in the three main areas of the computing curriculum:

- computer science (programming and understanding how digital systems work)
- information technology (using computer systems to store, retrieve and send information)
- digital literacy (evaluating digital content and using technology safely and respectfully)

PE

The aim of PE at Woodhouse is to have all children leave with a lifelong affiliation to leading healthy and active lifestyles.

All children at Woodhouse have an hours PE delivered by a specialist PE teacher. It is a skills based approach and the development of skills is evidenced as children move through the school. Children have an additional PE lesson delivered by their class teacher. These sessions are supported by the specialist PE teacher.

All children have the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular sporting activities. Many children go on to compete in teams both for the academy and representatively through our well established links with external clubs and teams.

Woodhouse has a proud history of competition and celebrates success while promoting the importance of competing with team-spirit, honesty and fair play.

ART

All children at Woodhouse have an hours art lesson once a week from a specialist art teacher. The Art curriculum covers the formal concepts of Art (line, shape, pattern, texture, colour and form) and is based on skills progression from Years 1 to 6. Meaningful links are made to the wider curriculum where appropriate.

The children's achievements in Art are celebrated in displays around school, on the school website and, from time to time, in the newsletter.

The specialist Art teacher also supports and advises staff when Art is being delivered in other areas of the curriculum.

PSHE / RSE

In PSHE throughout Key Stage 1 and 2 we follow the Jigsaw scheme. This builds on what children are taught and experience over the course of the primary years. Assembly themes and other areas of the curriculum reinforce the ideas and concepts that Jigsaw promotes.

RSE is taught throughout the school at an age appropriate level. In the older year groups we take advantage of visiting specialists who deliver specific aspects of the RSE curriculum.

Both PSHE and RSE are complimented by an annual visit from The Life Education Caravan. All children take part in an age appropriate workshop. A workshop session is also held for parents.

Music

Children in Years 1 to 6 follow the “Charanga” scheme. This covers all aspects of the music national curriculum and shows connectivity and development of skills alongside of a growing knowledge of technical aspects of music.

All children in Year 4 learn to play a musical instrument through whole class instrumental teaching from expert music teachers. They are all encouraged to continue this through years 5 to 6 in small group teaching.

We have a well-established choir who attend Young Voices annually and perform at venues around the community.

All children from Nursery to Year 6 sing in at least 2 concerts during the school year.

RE

Woodhouse Primary Academy follows the Birmingham Agreed Syllabus for the teaching of RE. Teachers adapt the published planning to best meet the needs of their children.

At Woodhouse Primary Academy we embrace the diverse cultures and beliefs of school community. RE teaching is supplemented by assemblies that celebrate a range of faiths whilst promoting British Values.

We have links with the local church and during their time at Woodhouse children have the opportunity to visit, explore and learn about different places of worship.

MFL

At Woodhouse Primary Academy, children study Spanish. Spanish is one of the three most spoken languages in the world. Studying Spanish helps children to further appreciate diversity in the modern world. This is delivered in Key Stage 2 using “Flash Academy”. Class teachers deliver the sessions supported and monitored by a MFL specialist.

Our Curriculum and SEND

The ambitious curriculum at Woodhouse has been designed for, and can be accessed by, the overwhelming majority of our children. Quality first teaching, appropriate differentiation and resourcing adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of almost all children.

In a very small number of cases, a bespoke curriculum may be written to meet the needs of an individual whose complex needs mean they are unable to access the curriculum without specialist provision. This is always done with, and approved by, the SENCO.