



Willow Bank Infant School

Curriculum Statement

Approved by	School Development
Review Period	Three Yearly
Approved	March 2021
Next Review	March 2024

Curriculum Statement

At Willow Bank Infant School, we are committed to ensuring that the education our pupils receive is consistently underpinned by our school aims and values to ensure that our children are happy and successful at school.

At Willow Bank Infant School, we are committed to delivering a high quality and personalised education. Our staff are dedicated to ensuring that the curriculum is exciting and dynamic, engaging and maximising the progress and potential of all pupils.

The school's values ensure that our provision is child centred, creative and innovative, fostering curiosity and a love of learning. As a school, we look to the future and aim to prepare our children to be resilient, reflective learners able to adapt and thrive in an ever-changing world.

In order to successfully achieve this for all pupils, Willow Bank Infant School delivers a curriculum that has clear progression through knowledge, skills and understanding and ensures that the children are ready to learn.

In our Foundation Stage, we believe in a play-based approach. This gives children the opportunity to think creatively and critically whilst practicing new skills, building on existing learning and pursuing their individual interests. Children learn to share, discuss, communicate, adapt, investigate and ask questions through play. Although the majority of the day is made up of children taking part in self-selected play-based activities, all children participate in structured phonics, number and topic related carpet sessions daily.

The Foundation Stage Unit learning styles are continued into Key Stage 1 to allow the children to develop and progress smoothly. Key Stage 1 methodologies ensure they develop and progress as a whole class and as individuals. The children experience topics covering science, history, geography music and RE. PE is taught twice a week and there is a clear progression of skills throughout Key Stage 1.

At Willow Bank Infant School, we are very proud of our ethos and values that underpin all we do. We consider that it is important for the children to be aware of British Values and develop an understanding of modern Britain and their contribution to it. British Values and the modern British society are incorporated into all areas of the curriculum and experiences that the children have access to.

Our curriculum has been designed to meet the needs of all our children. We follow the new National Curriculum, though we enhance and enrich the curriculum through our co-operative and collaborative working with other schools and initiatives, together with a variety of activities including educational visits, school performances, visitors invited into school to share experiences, Afterschool Clubs and Inter-school competitions. Many topics are brought together, where possible, and taught in a cross-curricular way, to maximise the use of time and also to make experiences more meaningful and provide children with a real context for learning. We use multiple strategies and approaches to support children's learning, for example, using a variety of books from different Reading Schemes (primarily from Read Write Inc to support Phonic reading, but supplemented with other schemes also) to ensure that children learn to read using books best suited to them, and similarly, with Phonics, using the Read Write Inc programme to create a learning experience that suits each child.

The values that we strive for at Willow Bank Infant School, together with the curriculum, create a welcoming and inviting school environment in which children feel safe and happy, where modern pace and shared values come together to help children achieve their full potential.