

**Heathlands Primary Academy**

**Curriculum Statement**

At Heathlands Primary Academy we aim to give every child access to a broad and balanced curriculum which is appropriate to their needs. While in Reception, children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. As children move from Reception to Year 1 and until they leave us at the end of Year 6, we follow the National Curriculum.

Our teachers spend a great deal of time researching and discussing what will best work for the child. We have tailored our thinking so that:

* the curriculum becomes more creative and exciting
* pupils are more motivated and interested in learning and remember what they have learned
* pupils are more involved in their learning and take ownership of it
* pupils are able to hold discussions at home which enhances parental involvement in their children’s learning.

**TOPIC BASED CURRICULUM**

At Heathlands Primary Academy we use the Cornerstones Curriculum for many of our foundation subjects. The Cornerstones Curriculum is topic based and supports and enhances the development of a range of skills through a number of curricular areas.

Please see the whole school curriculum overview below.

Further information can be found at: <https://cornerstoneseducation.co.uk/>

**ENGLISH**

The work is planned from the National Literacy Strategy to develop skills in English which will enable children to communicate effectively through the spoken and written word.

Pupils' abilities are developed within an integrated programme of speaking and listening, reading and writing. Daily reading activities are planned for each class to develop reading skills, so that children can become enthusiastic, independent and reflective readers.

**MATHEMATICS**

The work is planned using the National Numeracy Strategy (supported by the Lancashire Maths Scheme and resources from NCETM and White Rose) and is designed to develop skills in number, shape, space, measures and data handling. Children are given plenty of opportunities to apply mathematics in practical tasks and in problem solving.

**PERSONAL, SOCIAL & HEALTH EDUCATION (PSHE)**

PSHE is part of the whole school curriculum. It teaches children issues relating to health education and gives confidence to children to think of ways in which they can look after themselves and keep happy, healthy and most importantly, safe. Some of the topics covered are friendship, bullying, disability, road safety, stranger danger, keeping safe, which includes medicines and healthy living etc. The themes covered are taught at their own ability level.

Careful thought is also given to make sure that the curriculum is significant and appropriate to the children and that teachers in both Key Stages plan carefully to make sure that there is continuity and progression as children grow.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education is taught in line with the Birmingham agreed syllabus. We aim to enable our pupils to develop knowledge and understanding of different religions, in order that they may reflect on beliefs, values and experiences, make reasoned and informed judgements and develop positive attitudes towards others.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Throughout their time at Heathlands Primary Academy, children will have experience of dance, gymnastics, athletics, outdoor games and swimming.

For many of the classes PE is delivered by specialist sports coaches from Aspire Sports.

Together these promote physical development, an awareness and understanding of the body, the development of skills and imagination and an appreciation of creative performances.

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Our school offers a range of sports clubs delivered by the Aspire coaches alongside non-sports clubs that may be delivered by members of staff with particular expertise.

**RESIDENTIAL TRIPS**

In year 6 our children have the opportunity to be part of a 2 night, 3 day residential trip where they engage in a number of Outdoor and Adventurous activities. This helps to develop skills such as teamwork, leadership and independence.

**EDUCATIONAL VISITS**

All educational visits are carefully risk assessed and monitored, DfES requirements are fully complied with and a named member of staff has been trained as an Educational Visits Co-ordinator.