

Curriculum Statement

At Burton Manor Primary School we offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced and which builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills of all children, whatever their starting points, as they progress through each Key Stage. The curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum (2014) and other experiences and opportunities which best meet the learning and developmental needs of the pupils in our school. The aim of our curriculum is for pupils to have the requisite skills to be successful, independent and motivated learners in readiness for their next stage of education.

The school uses a cross-curricular approach to teaching and learning. This means that skills, knowledge and understanding across a range of subjects are brought together and form a topic. Within the topic, children are able to practise and apply their reading, maths and English skills in other subject areas.

Our 'curriculum planners' show each year group's overview of topics and curriculum learning.

Our 'Skills Curriculum Overviews' show each year group's half termly areas of learning. They are led by enquiry questions posed by the pupils to determine what they already know about the topic, what they would like to know and what they have learned. The overviews detail writing and maths opportunities, our school drivers and Computing, Online Safety and British Values links as well as outlining a termly experience, such as a class trip, a visitor to school or a celebration of learning event.

All teachers are subject leaders and are given training and opportunity to keep developing their own subject knowledge, skills and understanding so they can support curriculum development and their colleagues throughout the school. Theme weeks, whole school activities and opportunities within and outside school all enrich and develop the children's learning. After school clubs and events extend these opportunities further. We continue to develop our resources in terms of learning materials, books and technology.

Pupils have opportunities to share their learning with each other, their parents and carers and other learners through school-based activities, assemblies and Open Mornings each half term. Developing their independence and motivation as learners and their sense of responsibility as future citizens is at the heart of all our teaching and learning.

Assessment without levels

As part of reforms to the National Curriculum, the old system of 'levels' used to report children's attainment and progress was removed from year groups and there is no longer a National system.

The programmes of study within the National Curriculum (NC) sets out expectations at the end of each key stage, and all maintained schools are free to develop a curriculum relevant to their pupils that teaches this content.

At Burton Manor Primary the curriculum includes an assessment system which enables schools to check what pupils have learned and whether they are on track to meet expectations at the end of the key stage, and to report regularly to parents.

Our school system allows us to track children's progress against age related expectations for all National Curriculum subjects. English (Reading and Writing), maths and science and other subjects are assessed on a termly basis. Teachers assess children on the following scale against age related expectations:

Developing- D or Developing plus-D+

Expected-E or Expected plus-E+

Exceeding-Exc or Exceeding plus-Exc+

Assessment at End of Key Stages

In the summer of 2016, more challenging SATs tests were introduced to reflect the new curriculum at the end of the Key Stages. Children now receive a scaled score instead of a level. Their raw score - the actual number of marks they accrue - is translated into a scaled score; this helps to allow for differences in the difficulty of the tests from year to year so that pupils' results can be compared accurately. Parents are told their child's raw score, scaled score and whether they have reached the national standard for a particular subject.