



CURRICULUM INTENT

At Bishops Itchington Primary School, we recognise the need to provide our children with broad, engaging and memorable experiences through a rich curriculum that maximises cultural capital; this will equip them for their future progression and life choices. We help our pupils to develop individually by providing opportunities for them to explore their curiosity and to develop and express their own opinions through discussion, collaboration and respecting diversity and difference. We help children to develop pride in themselves through their work and the way they behave. Every child is recognised as a unique individual and their strengths are admired and encouraged.

At the heart of our teaching programme, is the Government's National Curriculum. For each subject, we have identified the progression of skills and knowledge for individual year groups in our 'curriculum progression maps'. We bring the learning alive through exciting topics such as 'Memory Box' and 'Arctic Explorers' in the Infants and 'Home Front Study of WWII' and 'The Ancient Egyptians' in the Juniors providing a good balance of history and geography coverage. For history and geography subjects, we use a two-year topic rotation to enable classes in Years 1 and 2; 3 and 4; and, 5 and 6 to share resources, ideas and experiences to maximise the school's creativity and resources through shared trips, visitors and projects. While doing this, we ensure that the skills and knowledge continue to be progressive for each cohort using our curriculum progression maps. The content is spaced with repetition with regular retrieval of concepts that has been learned.

To support learning, we use well-researched cognitive theory-based programmes to ensure good quality teaching and learning and a progressive and consistent approach through the school. Examples are White Rose Maths, Monster Phonics, No Nonsense Spelling and Primary Languages Network.

We have high expectations for all children and adapt the curriculum so it is accessible to all of our learners; especially those with special educational needs and those who are disadvantaged. This includes the use of interventions (one-to-one or in small groups) in reading, maths and writing; the impact of which is reviewed regularly.

Each of our curriculum subjects is managed by allocated teachers who are trained in curriculum content and ensure that an engaging and progressive curriculum is provided. The Subject Managers are given 'management time' to allow them to lead and support teachers, observe lessons, speak to pupils about their learning experiences, monitor books

and offer support with subject knowledge and resources. The promotion of key and rich subject vocabulary is taught across all subjects to widen the knowledge and understanding of our children. Our Early Years Unit (Ladybirds Nursery and Reception Class) is overseen by Subject Managers to ensure foundation learning, especially phonics, is consistent so children achieve their Early Learning Goals before entering the Infant Stage of their education.

Educational trips are carefully chosen to link topics to learning and are always enjoyed by our children. Theatre visits, The Black Country Museum, The National Space Centre, St. John's Museum, Roman Forts, Shakespeare's house, and more. Through our music curriculum, we have brass and guitar lessons, choir performances and events at the church and within school, and we take our choir to Young Voices.

Our teachers and support staff are well-trained and motivated to go 'the extra mile' to ensure the school provides the best it can for its pupils. Our teachers are experienced in teaching the curriculum and are encouraged to progress into leadership roles, where opportunities allow. The school is part of the Stowe Valley Multi-Academy Trust; this has proved wholly beneficial to our school community because they provides specialist advice, guidance, investment and sharing of skills and knowledge to support our management team and our teachers.

Our school promotes a healthy lifestyle for all. We look after the wellbeing of our pupils to ensure they are physically, mentally and emotionally cared for. In the fullness of time, we strive to empower our pupils to take care of themselves by giving them the skills and confidence to move onto bigger challenges. We encourage our children to become valuable members of society by helping them experience the value of their local community and helping them to participate in charitable and caring projects.

We provide enrichment for our pupils throughout our school day. We have clubs that meet at lunchtimes: Running Club, Colouring Club, Computer Club, Games Club, Eco Club. After school we have Football Club, Netball Club, Table Tennis Club, Running Club, Drama Club and Taekwondo. We strive to provide opportunities for our children to go on trips and visits to enrich their first-hand experiences. We have a Forest School that is greatly enjoyed where the children use natural resources make creations linked to their topics.

We also encourage visitors to come into our school: Guide Dogs for the Blind, Leamington Night Shelter; our local vicar who plays the guitar and sings with the children; theatre production; The Royal Shakespeare Company; NSPCC; we like visitors coming to our school.

At Christmas, we have a nativity play performed by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. And in the summer, Key Stage 2 perform their annual play. Senior residents from the village and grandparents are invited to join us for school dinners and then to watch the performances. Tea and coffee are served by the children and it is always well-attended.

We provide good quality wrap-around care for pupils through our club called 'Buddies'. Buddies allows our working families to have child-care from 7.30am until 5.30pm every weekday. Not only is this a support to our families, it also provides fantastic activities for our children: computers, colouring, cooking, dressing up, puzzles, Lego, and more. Currently as many as 25 children attend in one session.

Our homework policy was written in collaboration with a parent forum and teachers to ensure that it is fit for purpose and workable and supported by our busy families. Homework is supported at Buddies as well as at our lunchtime Homework Club.

We are a welcoming and nurturing school and play an important role in our local community.

Mrs J. Sykes